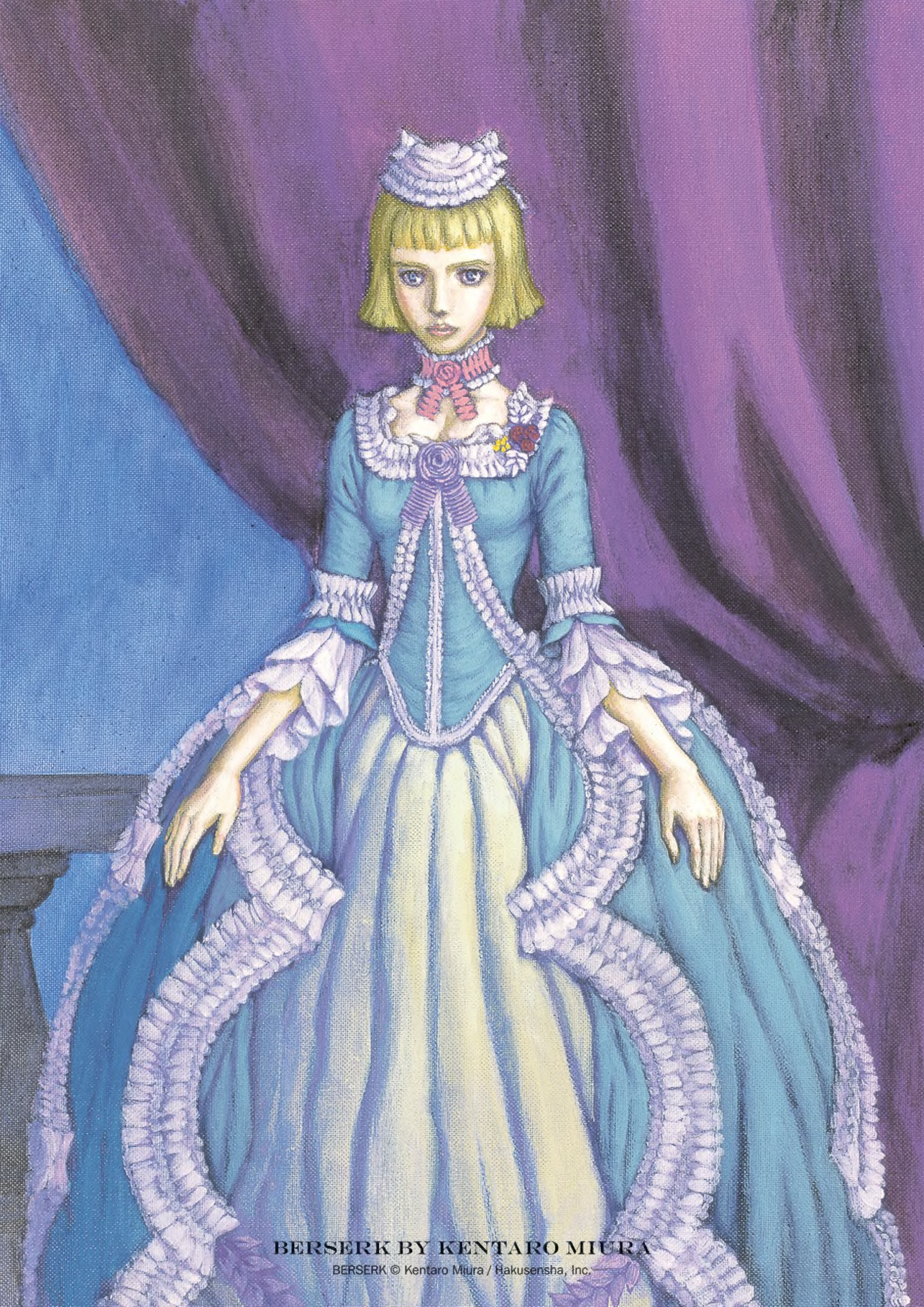




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獣牙

29



三浦建太郎 KENTARO MIURA

BERSERK

BERSERK 29

BY

**KENTARO
MIURA**
三浦建太郎

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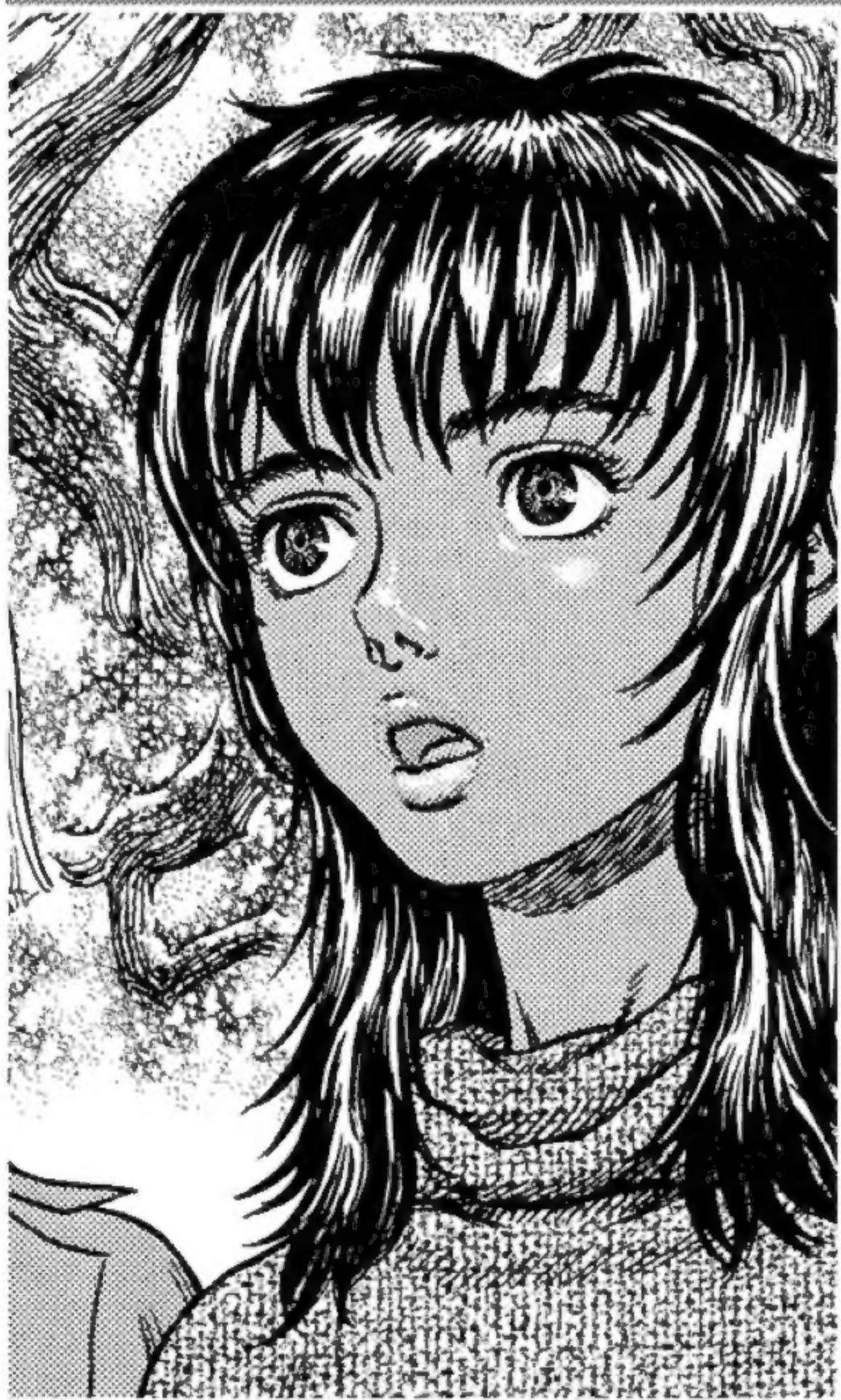
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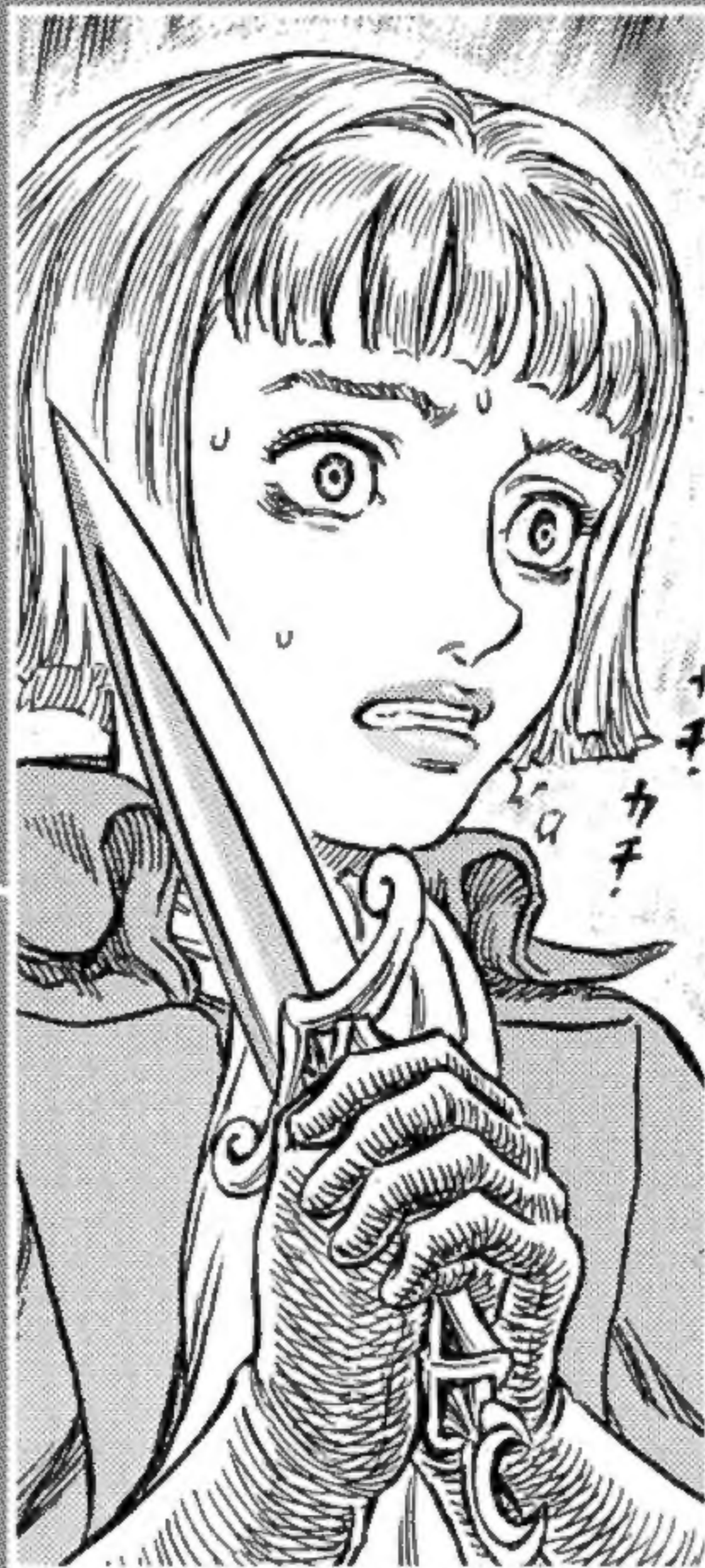


三浦建太郎



キャスカ Casca

Former unit commander of the Band of the Hawk—mentally regressed from her experience in the Eclipse. She now neither speaks nor conveys any feelings. Her Brand, which reacts to evil, is thinly shielded by Flora's talisman.



ファルネーゼ Farnese

Former commander of the Holy See's Holy Iron Chain Knights and daughter of the Vandimion family, one of influential status and wealth in the religious sphere. She seeks to learn from Guts her own means of survival and about the reality of the world.



ガッツ Guts

The Black Swordsman. He exists in the Interstice and wears the Berserker Armor, his soul constantly torn between protecting Casca and challenging Griffith. That struggle is nothing short of sublime.



イシドロ Isidro

Dreams of being the "ultimate swordsman," but his actual talent, not up to snuff, repeatedly endangers him. Nevertheless, the boy endeavors toward his dream. He is currently equipped with a fetish granted the protection of fire elementals.



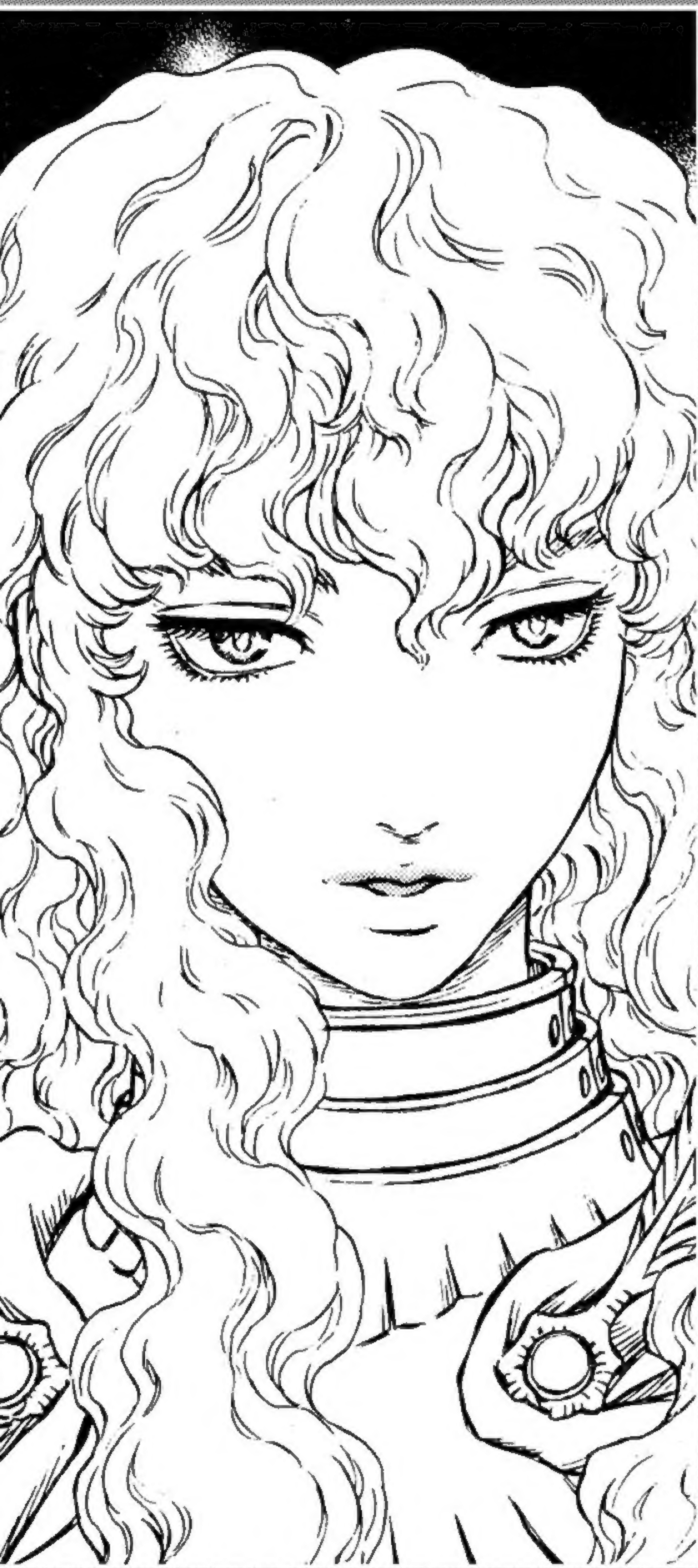
パック Puck

An elf who's long been with Guts on his journeys. His dust has the power to heal wounds. Also, he recently confirmed that he's a wind spirit, one of the four types of elementals. He also changes into "chestnut Puck."



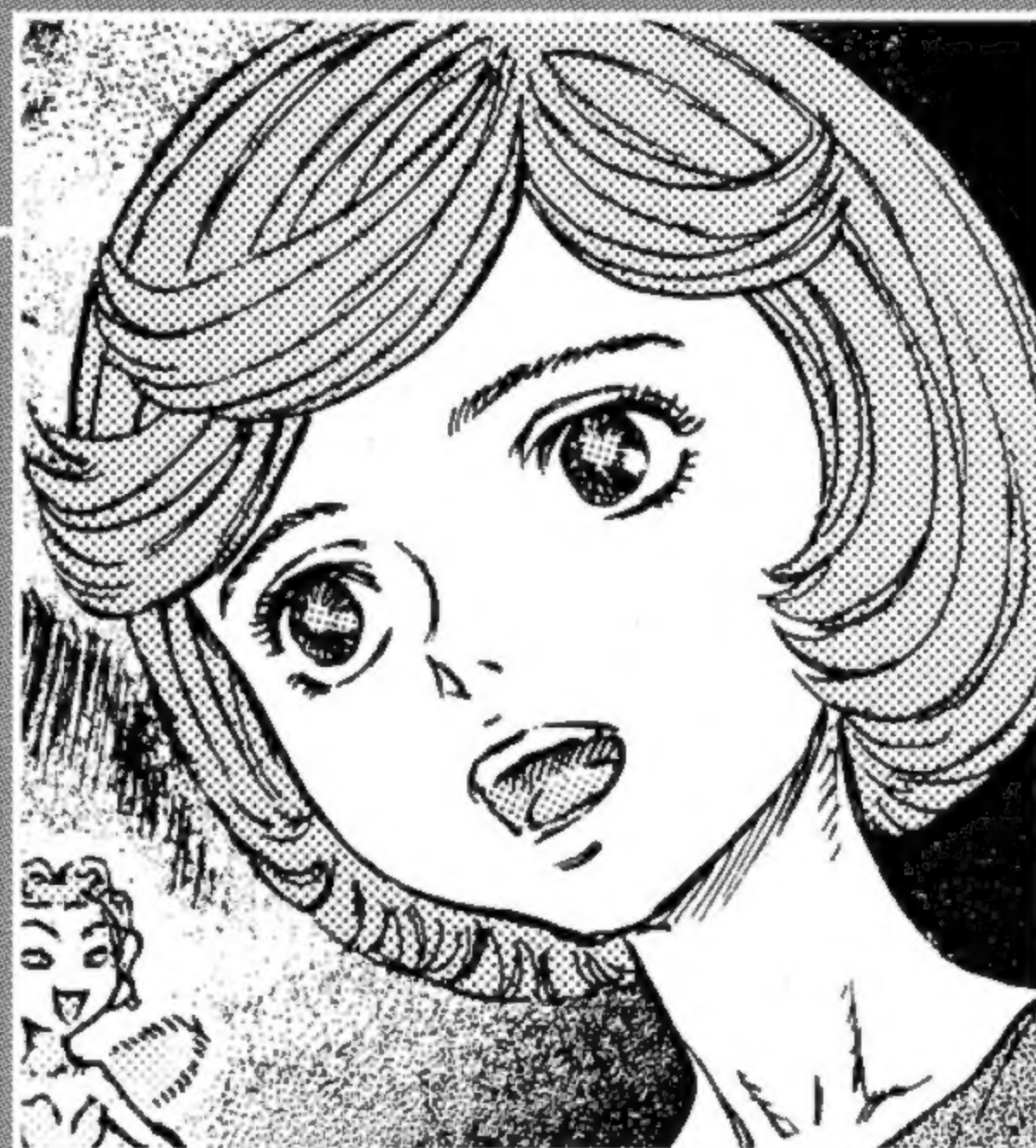
セルピコ Serpico

Attendant of Farnese, and actually her brother; however, Farnese is not aware of the blood relationship. He is skilled in fighting and is currently clad in a fetish granted the protection of wind elementals.



シールケ Schierke

Disciple of Flora, witch of the Spirit Tree mansion. Schierke supports Guts and the others through her use of magic; however, among her spells are some beyond her mastery, which occasionally place her in great peril as she tries to aid her allies. She has a stilted side to her personality.

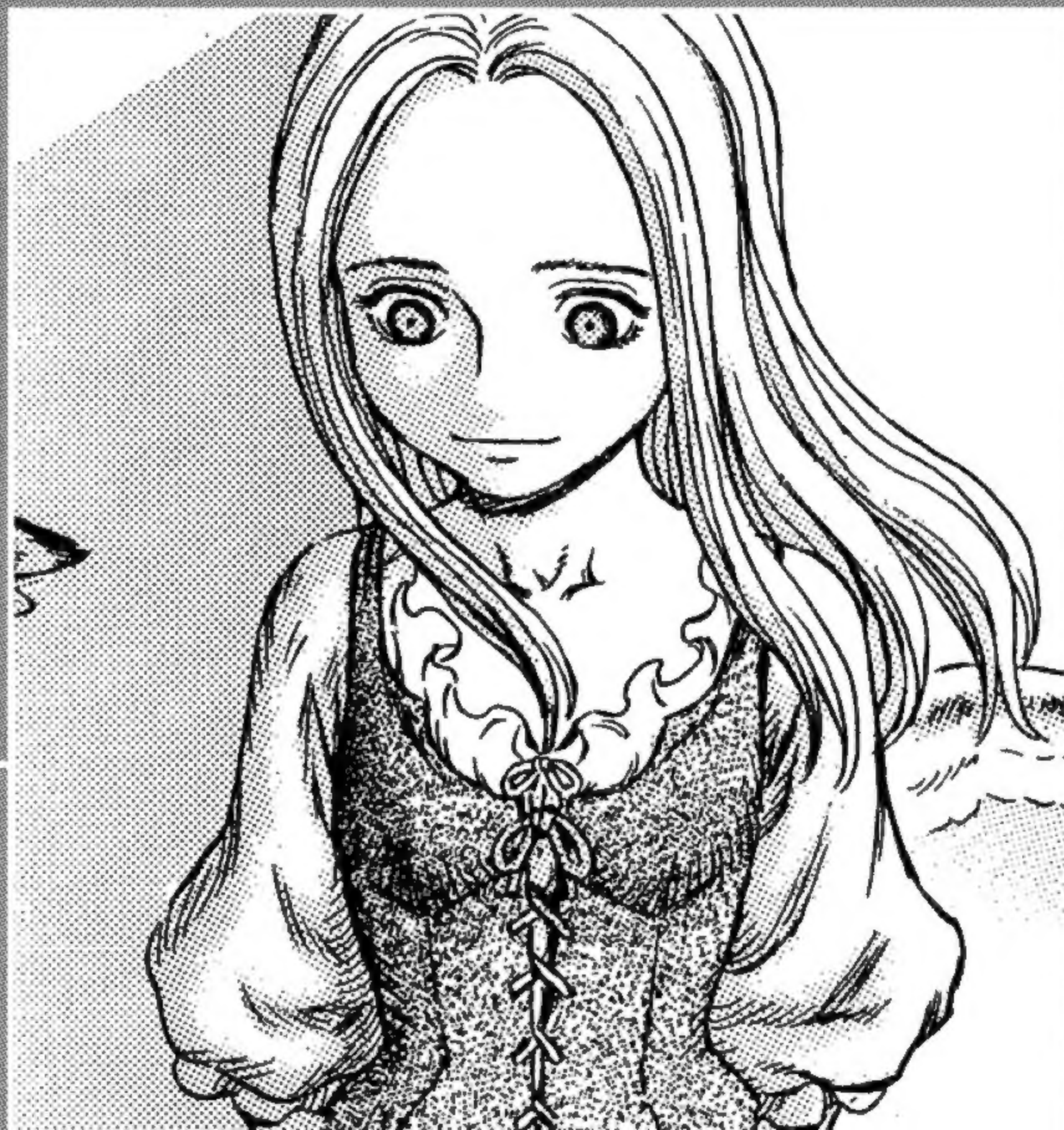


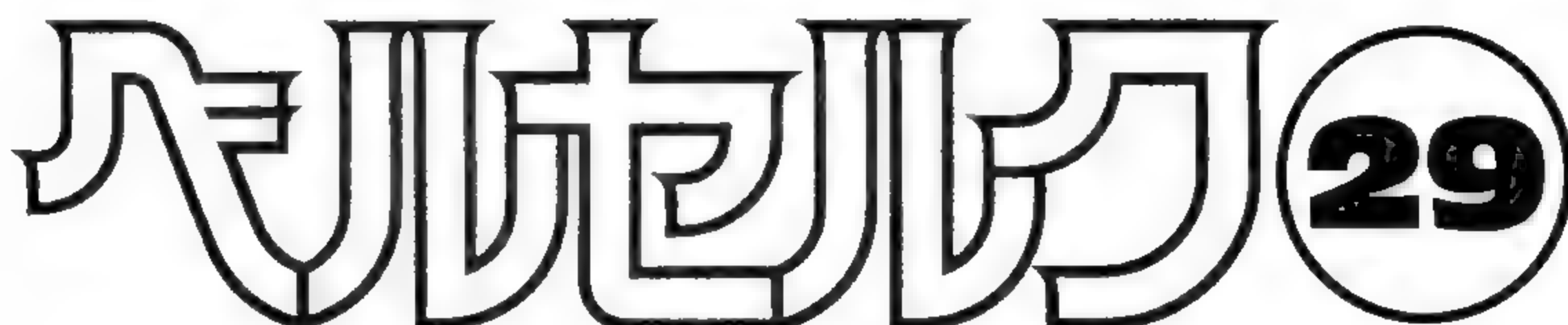
グリフィス Griffith

Through the Eclipse of the Crimson Behelit, Griffith was reborn as Femto of the Godhand. Later he was incarnated in the imitation Eclipse catalyzed by the egg-shaped apostle, thus returning to the physical world, in which he became the "absolute," without equal. He leads the reborn Band of the Hawk.

ソーニャ Sonia

Sonia was taken prisoner during a Kushan invasion of her city, but was then rescued by Griffith. Due to her abilities, she is now the medium of the reborn Band of the Hawk. She has a free and unbridled personality, but also a showy, courageous side.





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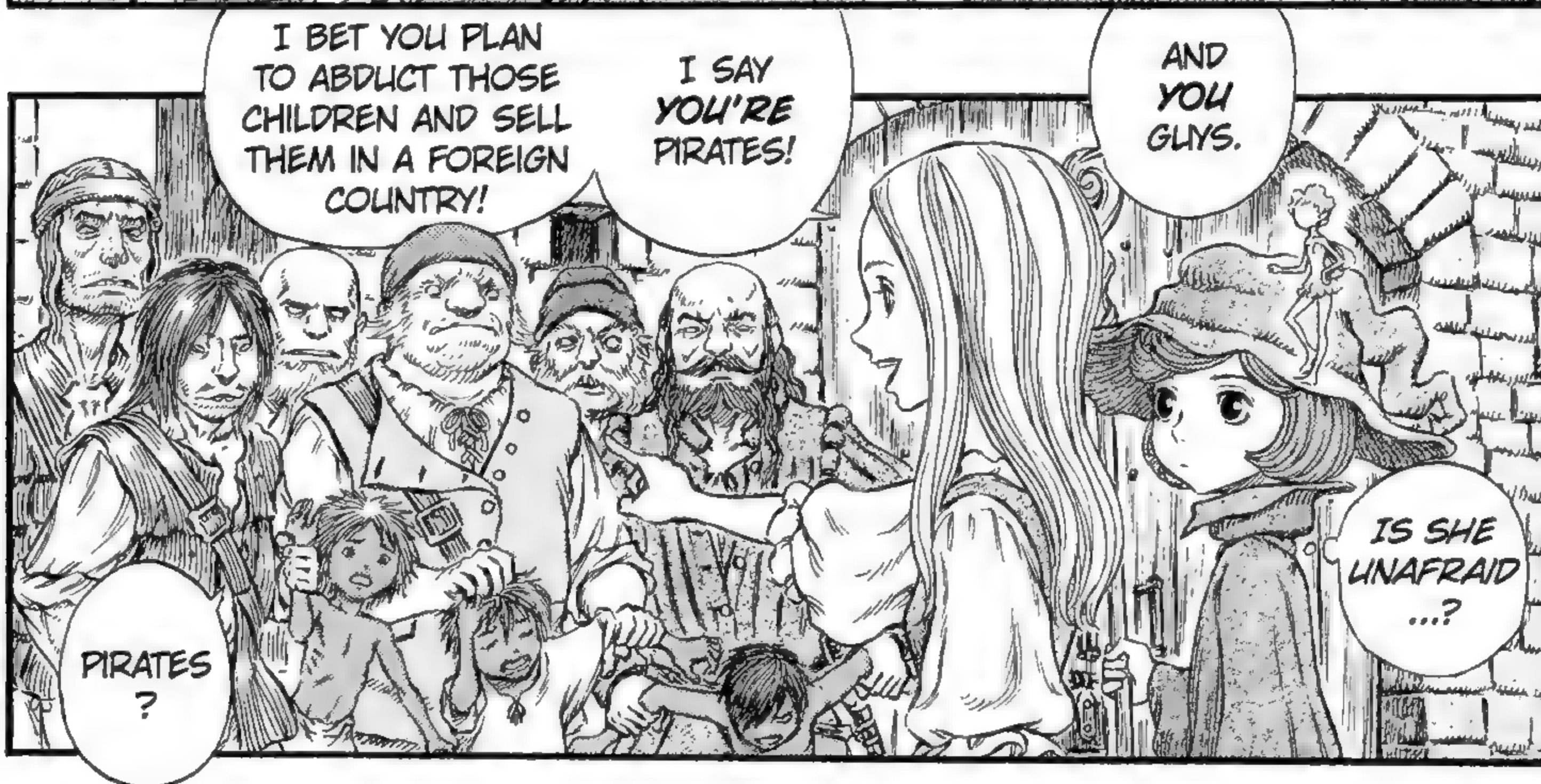
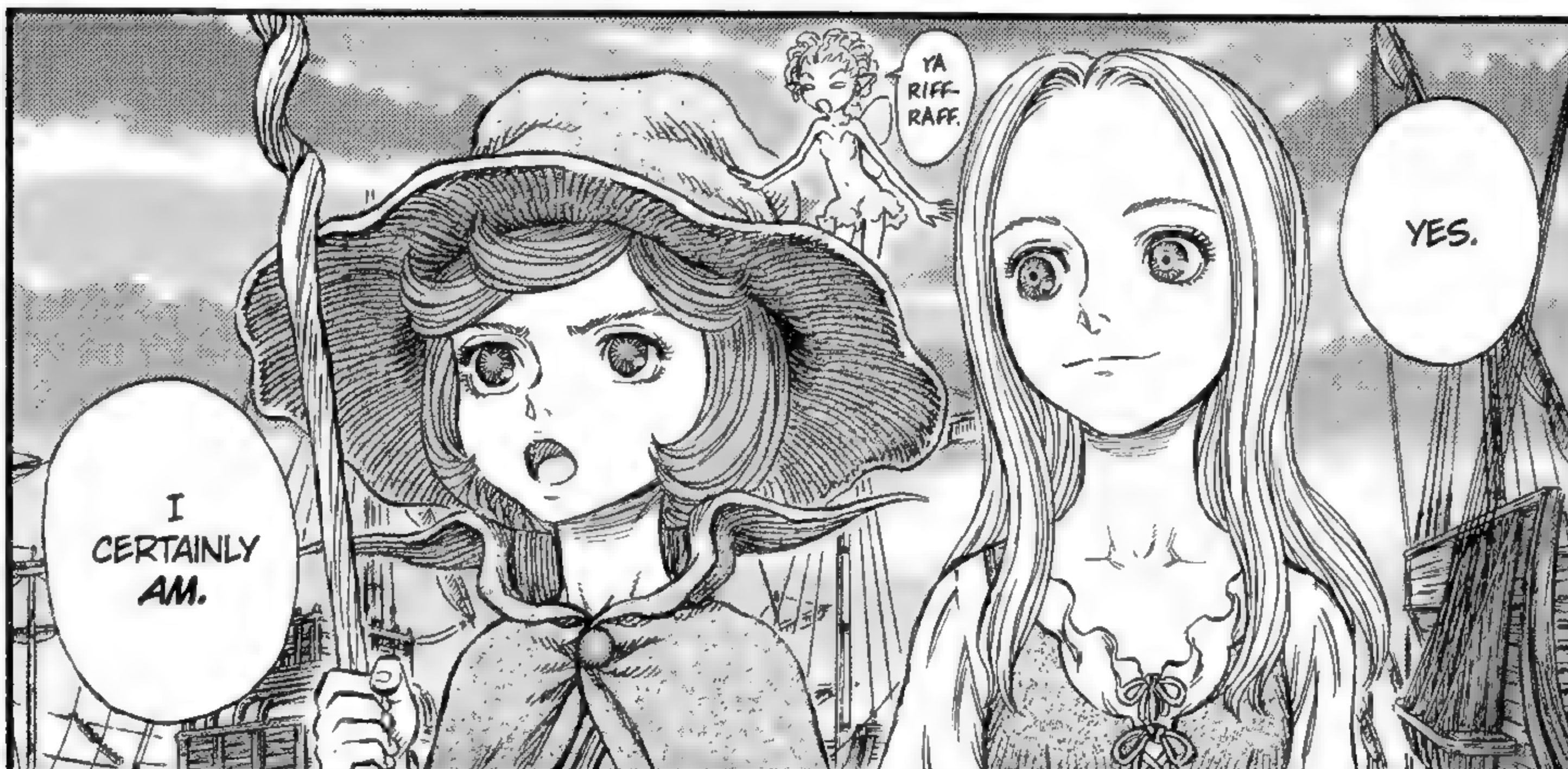
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BLOODSHED

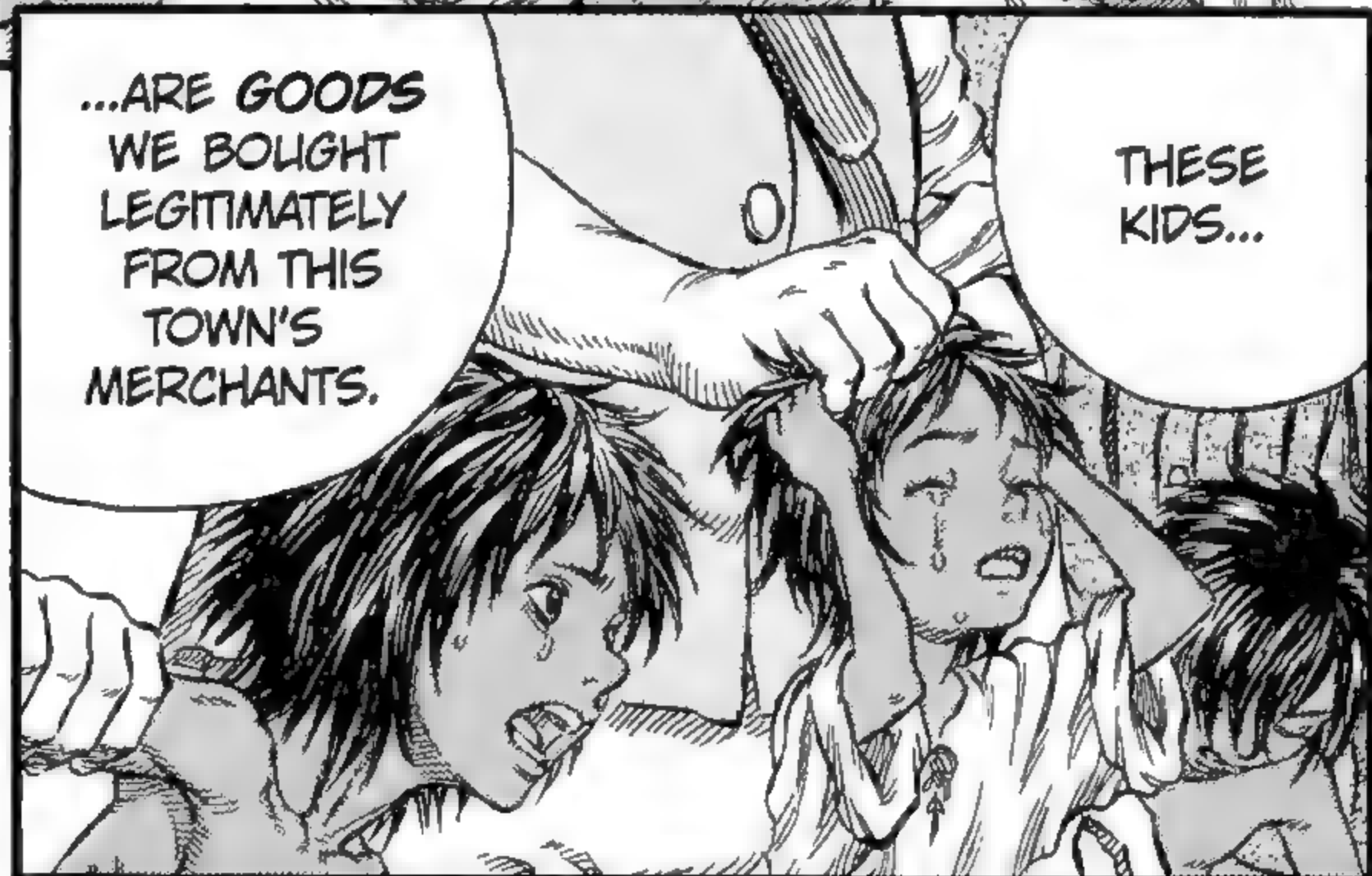
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傷





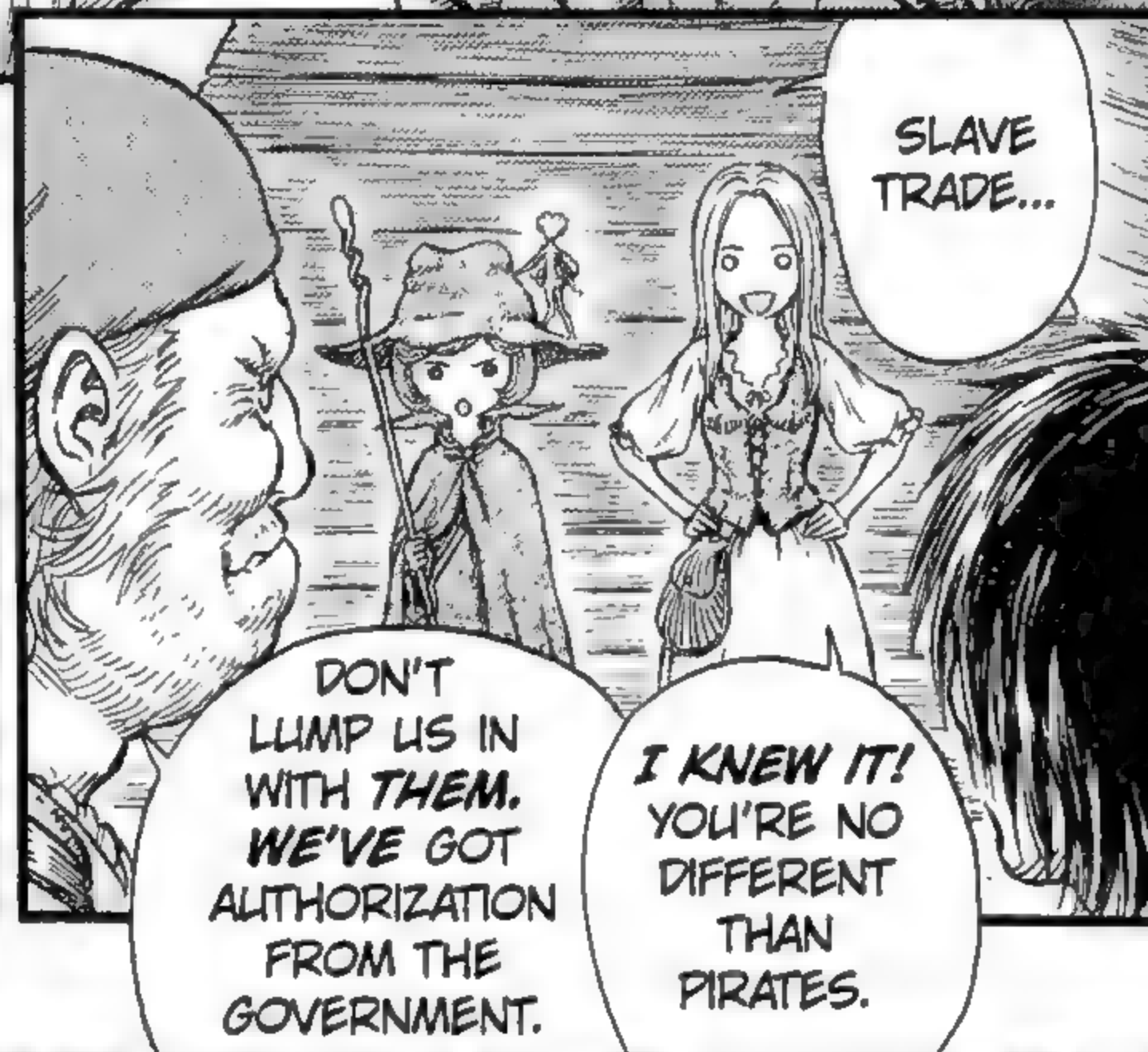
WE MAKE OUR
LIVIN' BUYIN' AND
SELLIN' PEOPLE.

WE'RE IN
THE **SLAVE**
TRADE.



...ARE **GOODS**
WE BOUGHT
LEGITIMATELY
FROM THIS
TOWN'S
MERCHANTS.

THESE
KIDS...



SLAVE
TRADE...

DON'T
LUMP US IN
WITH **THEM**.
WE'VE GOT
AUTHORIZATION
FROM THE
GOVERNMENT.

I KNEW IT!
YOU'RE NO
DIFFERENT
THAN
PIRATES.



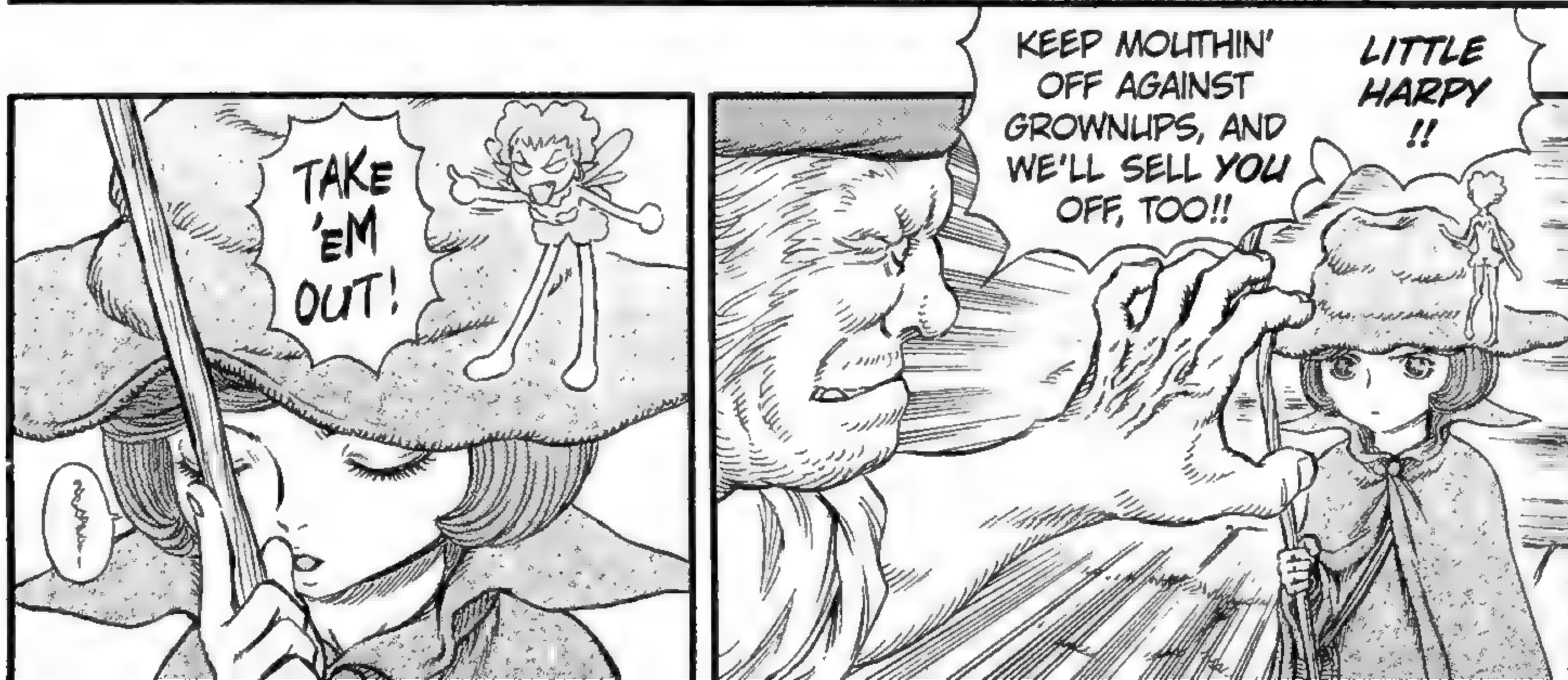
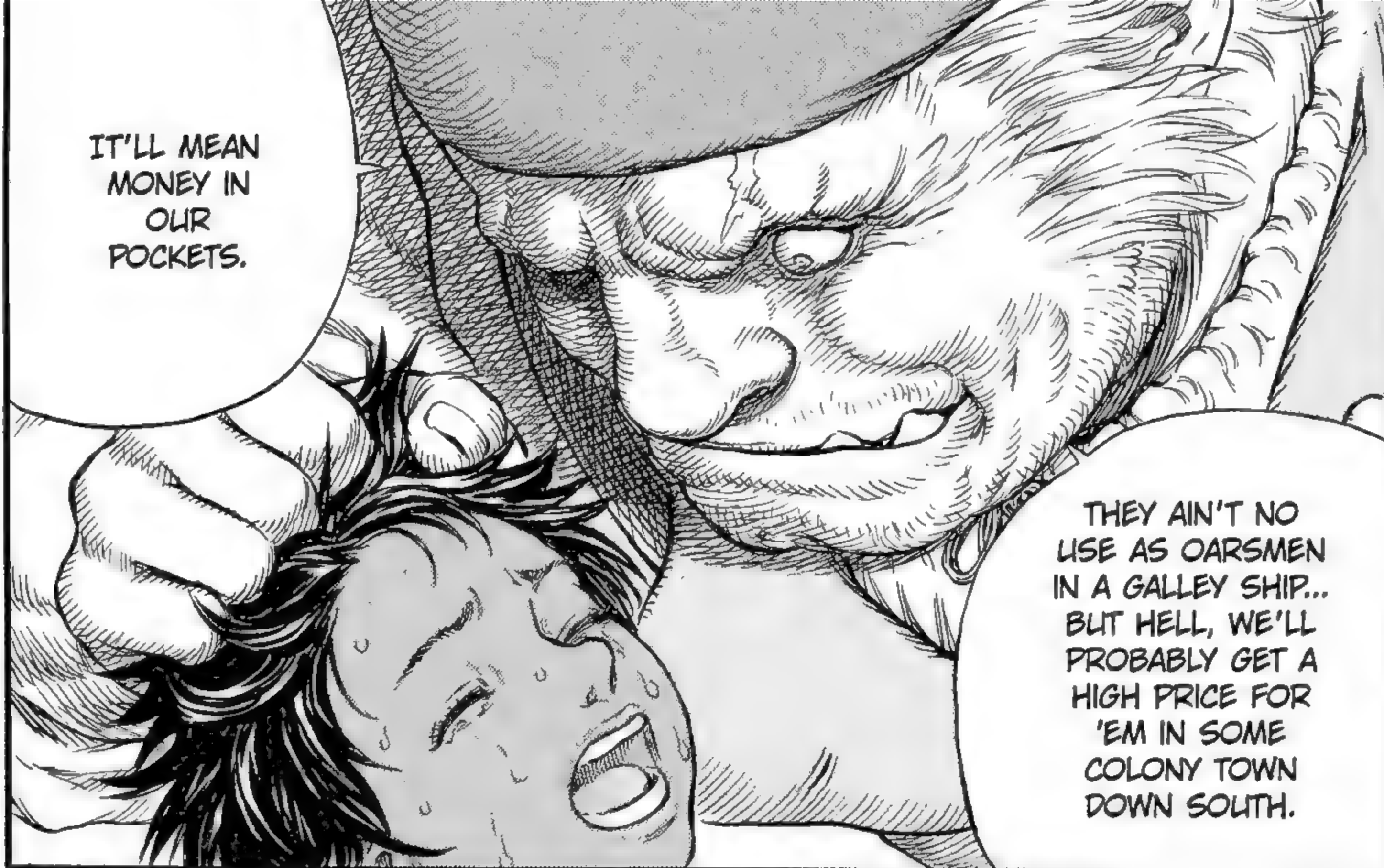
LOOKS LIKE
EVEN **THIS**
VRITANNIS LOT
COULDN'T
STOMACH LAYIN'
HANDS ON
CHILDREN.

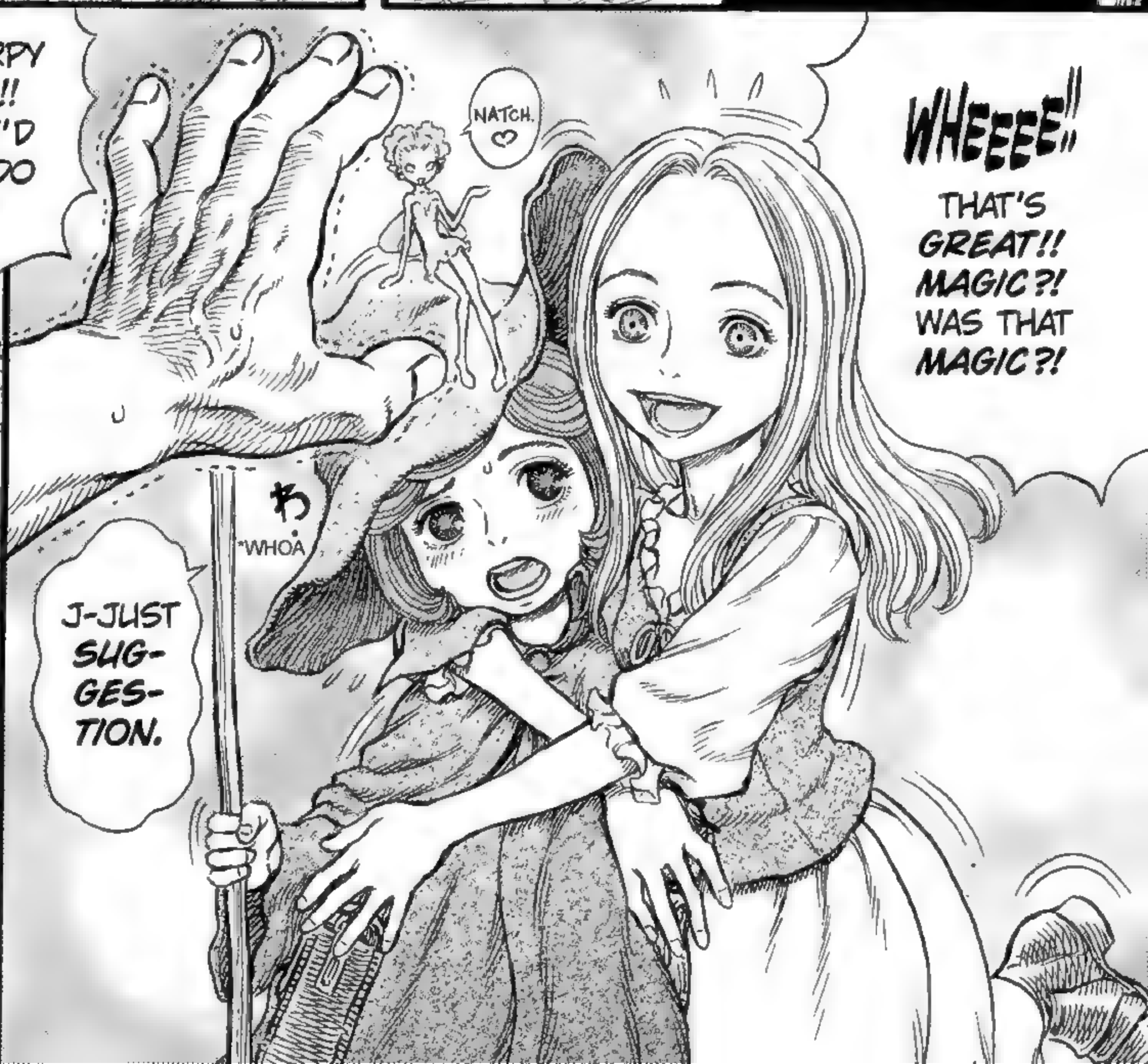
BUT IT AIN'T
LIKE THEY CAN
BE LEFT IN
THE CITY
NEITHER.

SO THAT'S
WHERE **WE**
COME IN.

RIGHT NOW,
KLUSHAN ARE
CONTRABAND
IN VRITANNIS,
EVEN AS SLAVES.
THEY GET
ROUNDED UP BY
OFFICIALS AND
HANGED.

THESE KIDS'
PARENTS
GOT HANGED
AS SUCH,
AND NOW
HERE THEY
ARE.







*HAHHH HAHHH

YEAHHH,
I WAS
EXPECTIN'
THIS.

BINGO.



*WHRRRL

URRK!

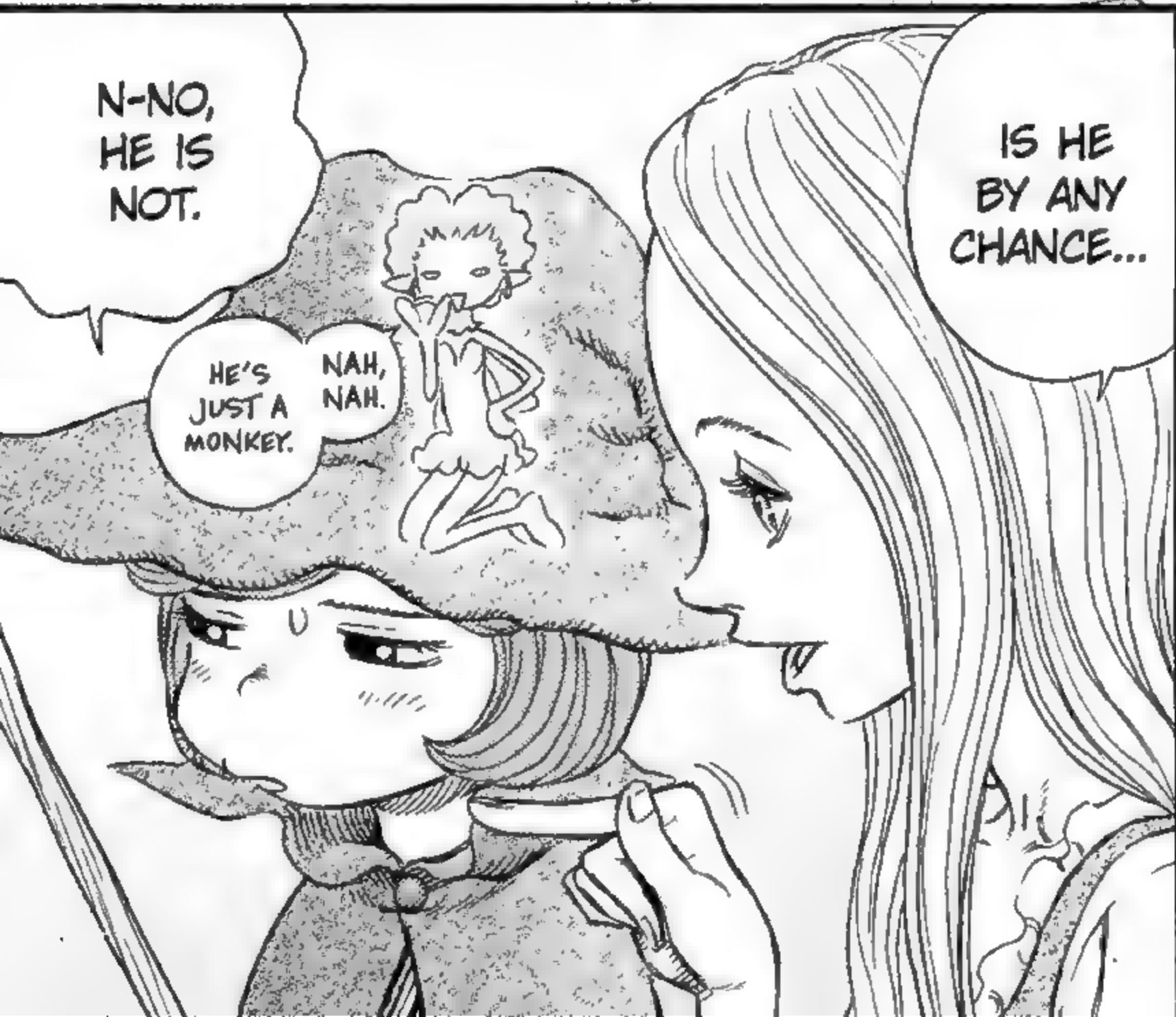
SET ME
FREE IF
YOU DON'T
WANNA
GET HU--



WHAT
THE--
?!

*KLONK

*FX: WHUMP



N-NO,
HE IS
NOT.

HE'S
JUST A
MONKEY.

NAH,
NAH.

IS HE
BY ANY
CHANCE...



ISIDRO.

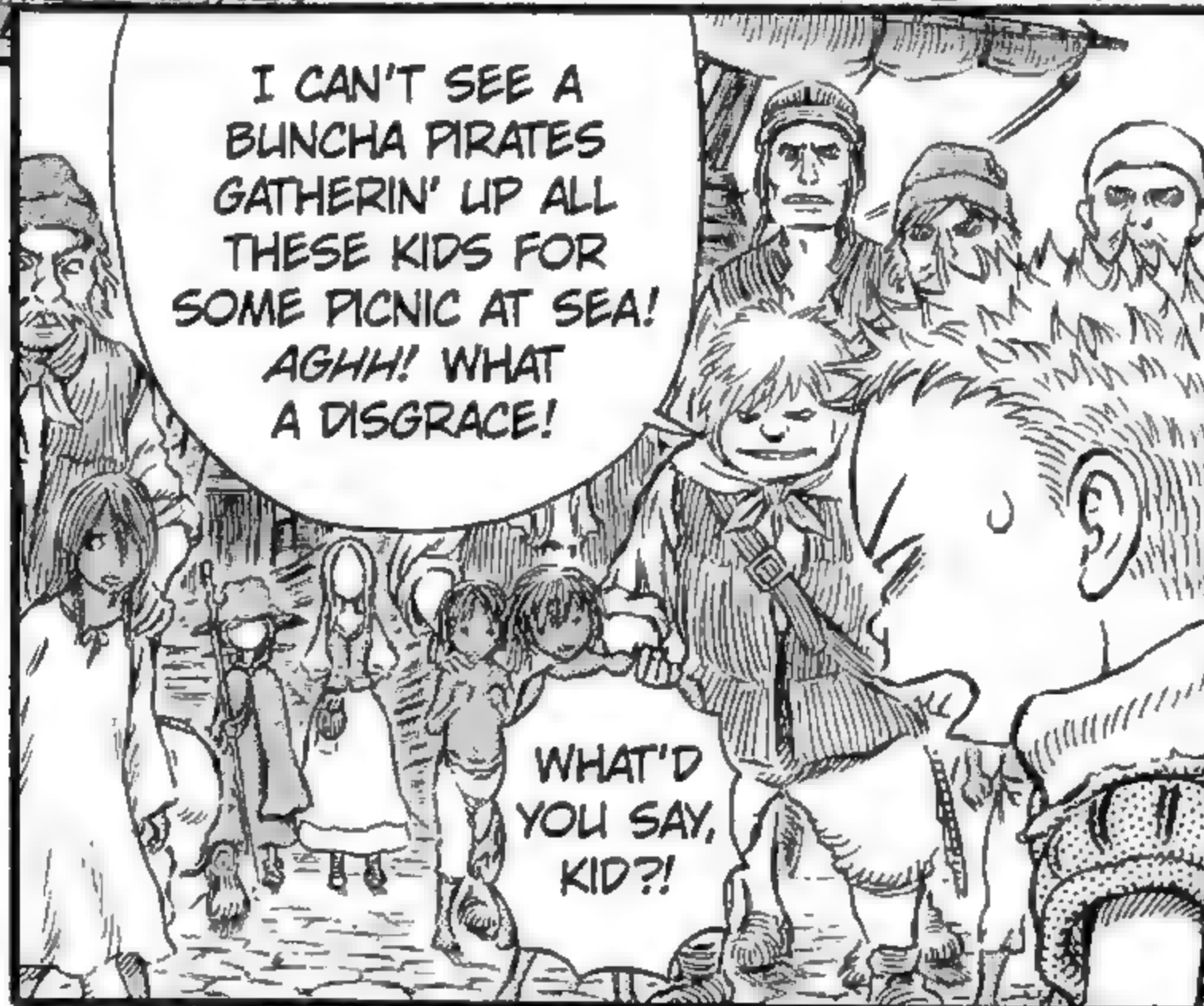
OH.



HEY!
YOU!
PIRATES!

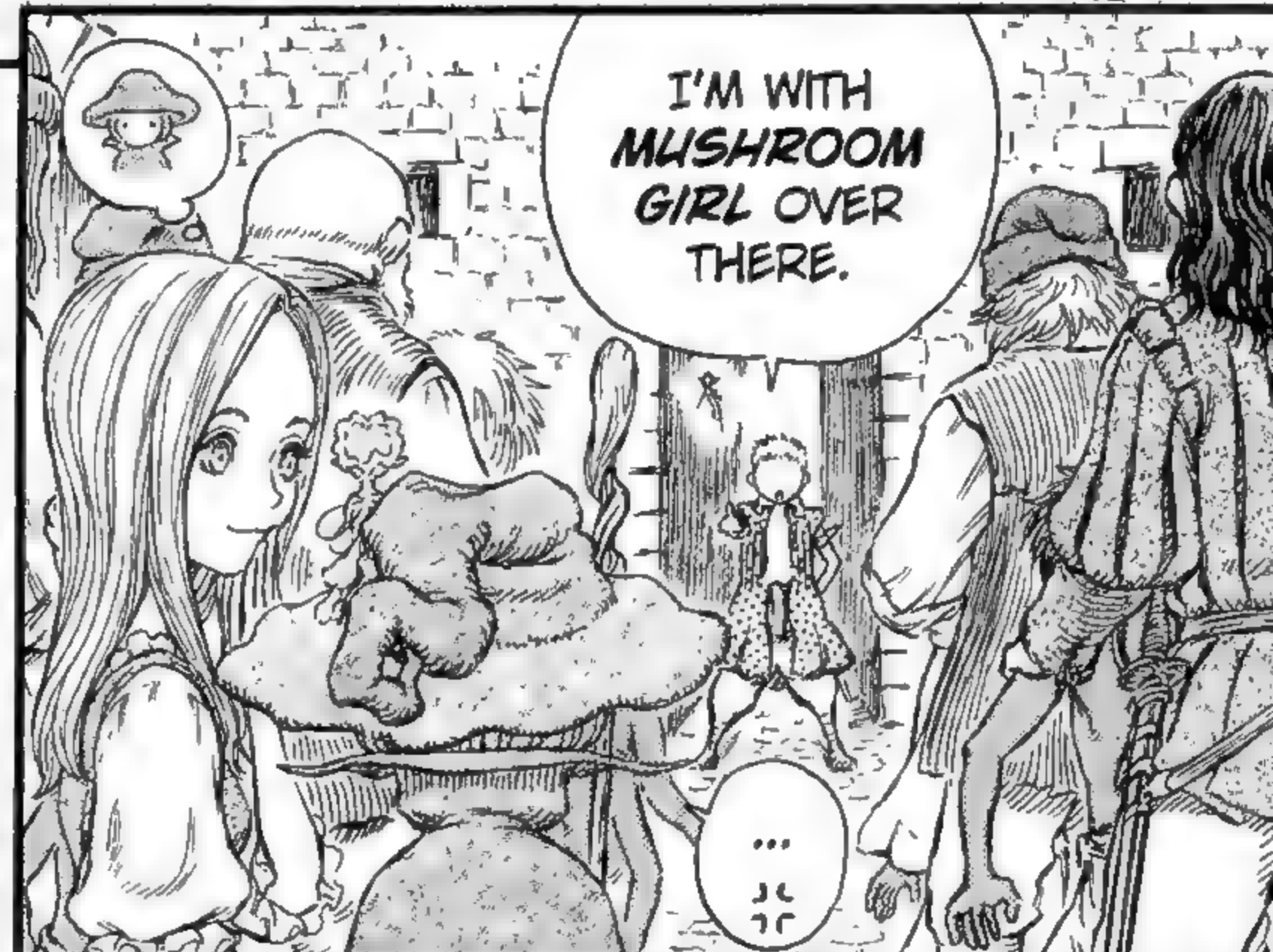
WHO'RE
YOU?

QUIT
BREAKIN'
THE LAW!



I CAN'T SEE A
BUNCH A PIRATES
GATHERIN' UP ALL
THESE KIDS FOR
SOME PICNIC AT SEA!
AGHH! WHAT
A DISGRACE!

WHAT'D
YOU SAY,
KID?!



I'M WITH
MUSHROOM
GIRL OVER
THERE.

...



DAHHAH!
DAMN, THE
MOUTH
ON THIS
KID!

HE
REALLY IS
LIKE A
MONKEY.

PRETTY
MUCH

...



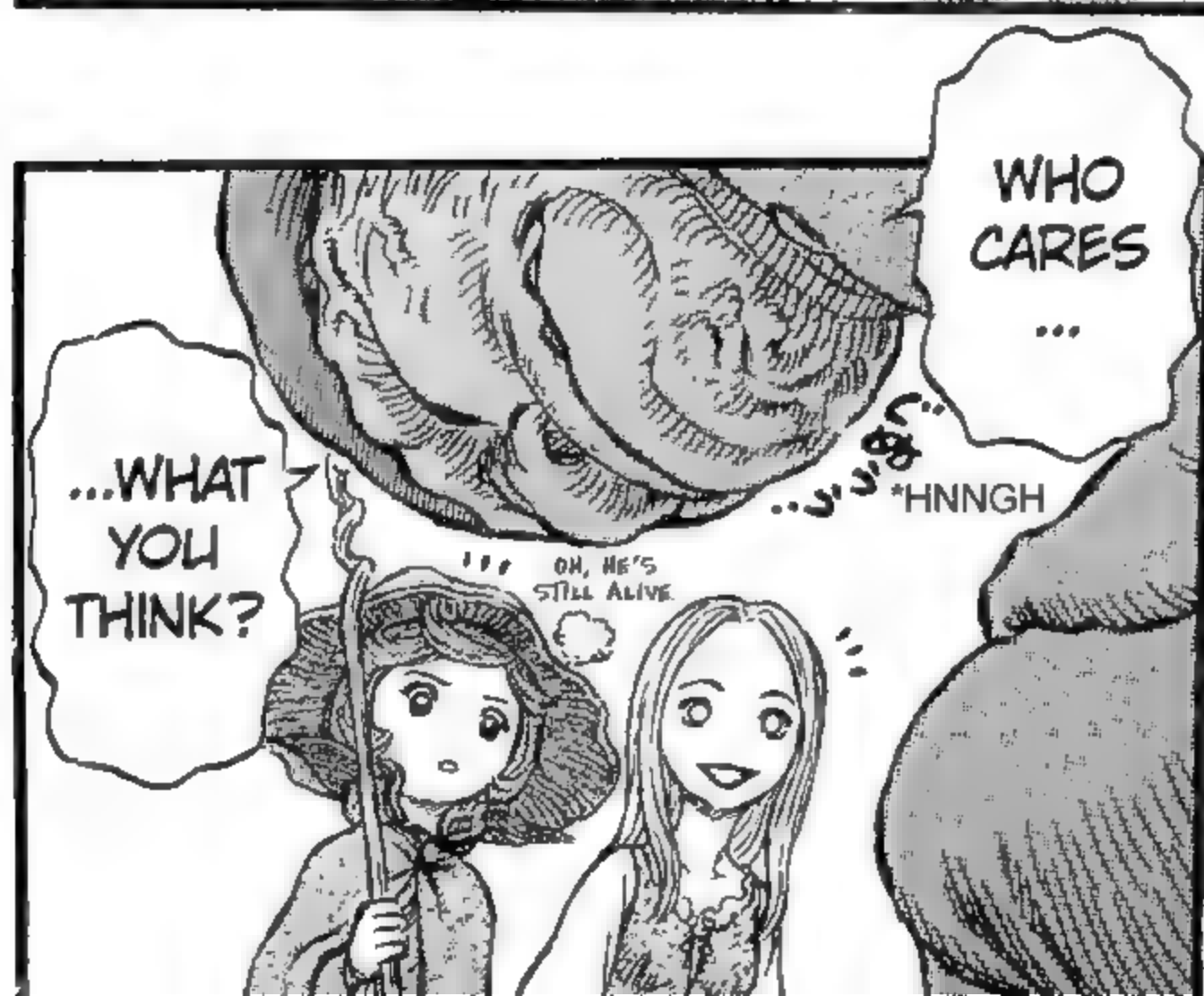
CHESTNUT

BOMP
ZHOOP
BOMM

THAT'S
WHAT THEY
CALL A
TREASURE
CHEST...
PIRATE
BOOTY!!

YOU
GUYS'RE
JUST
GROSS!

IF YOU'RE
PIRATES, YOU
SHOULD BE
KIDNAPPIN'
GIRLIES
WHO'RE
MORE LIKE,
Y'KNOW,
BOMP
ZHOOP
BOMM!!



...WHAT
YOU
THINK?

WHO
CARES
...

HNNGH

OH, HE'S
STILL ALIVE



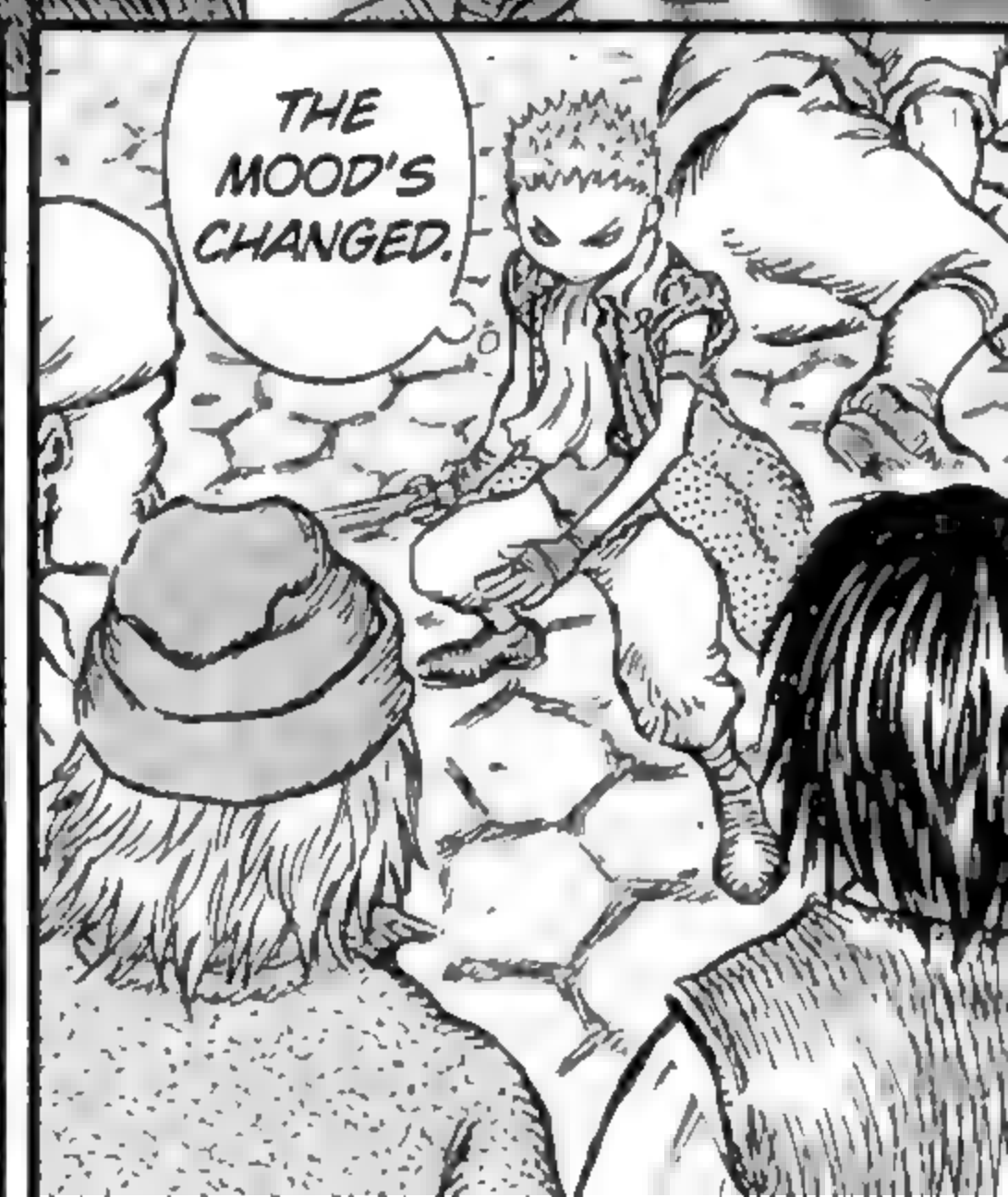
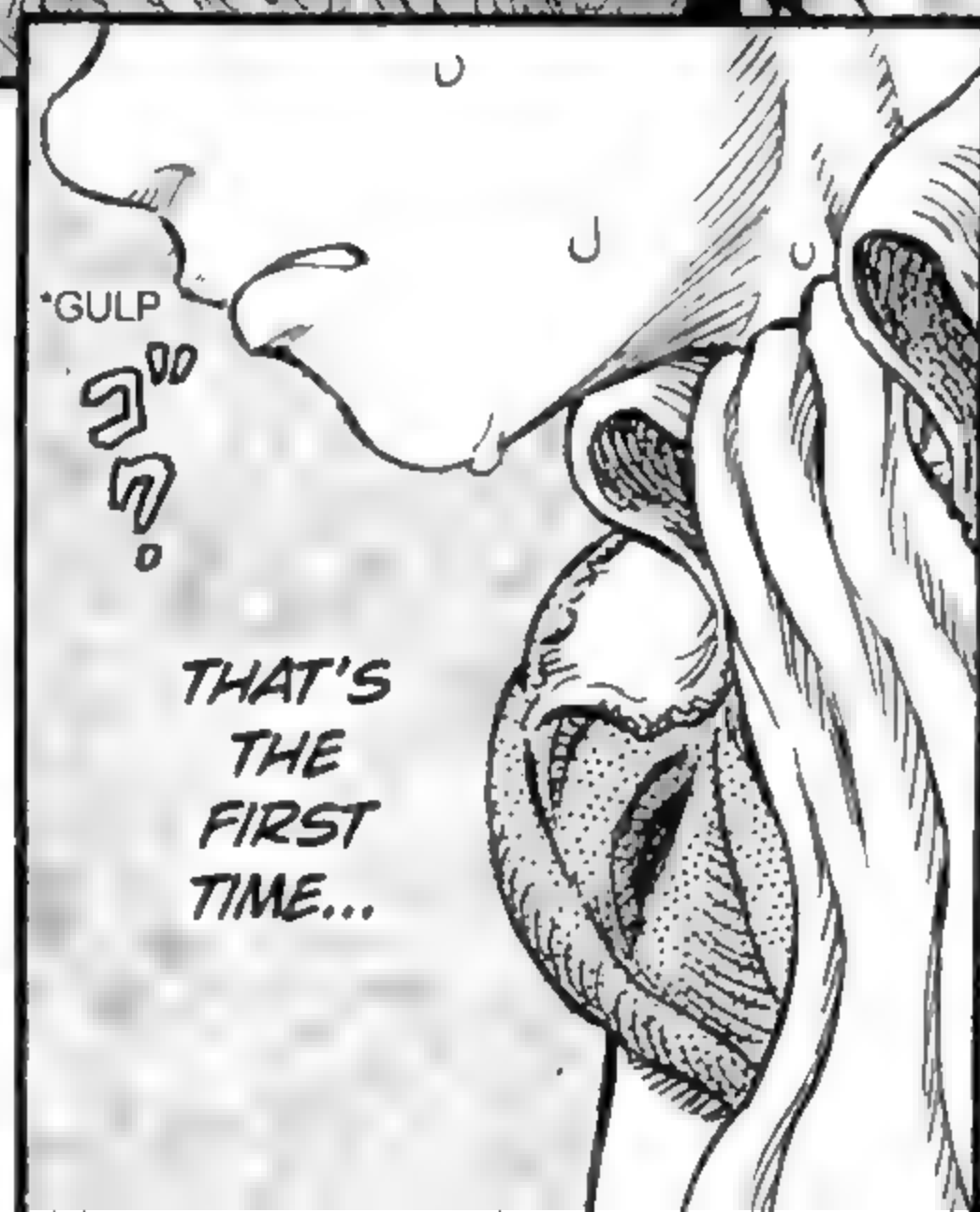
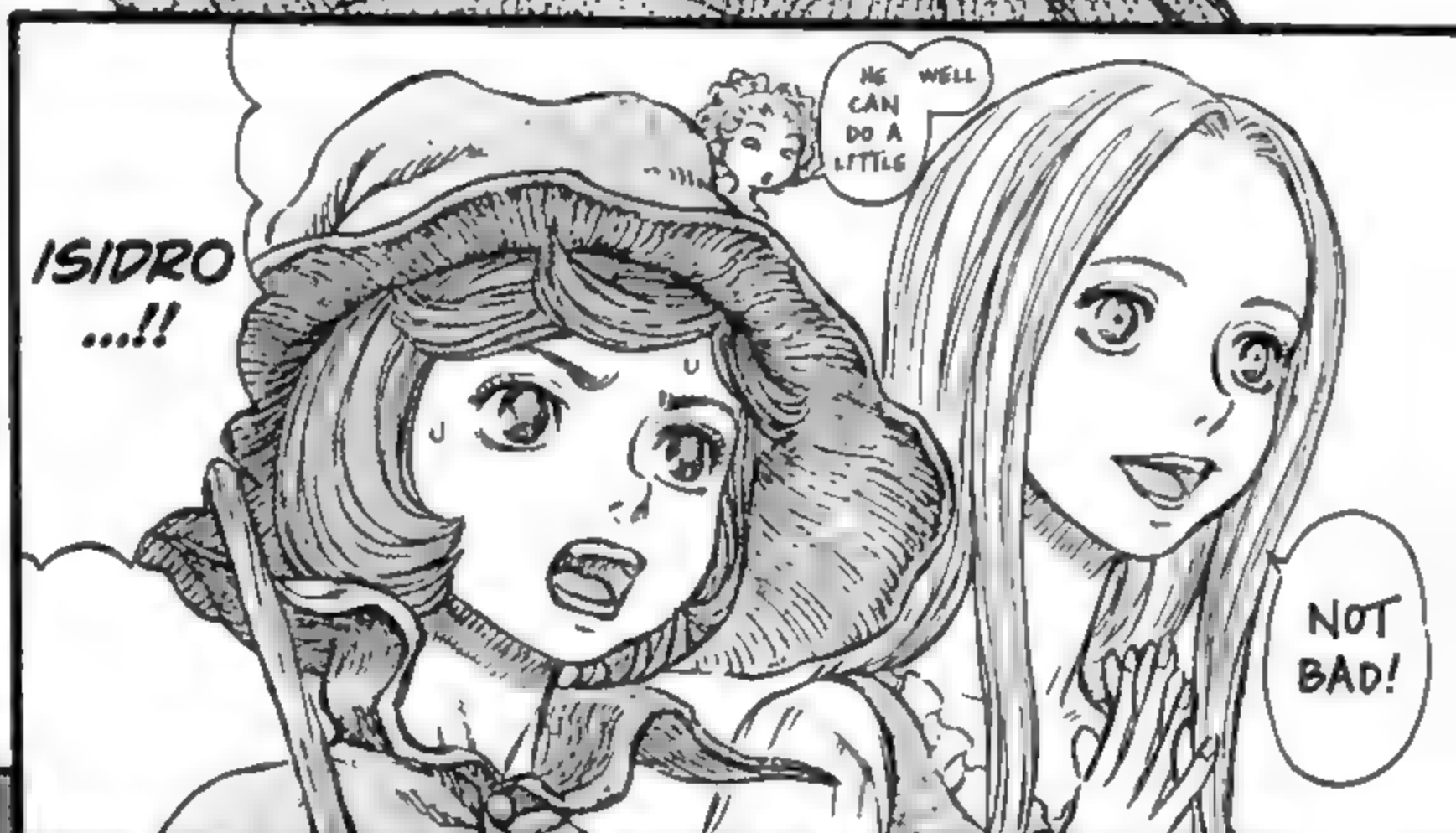
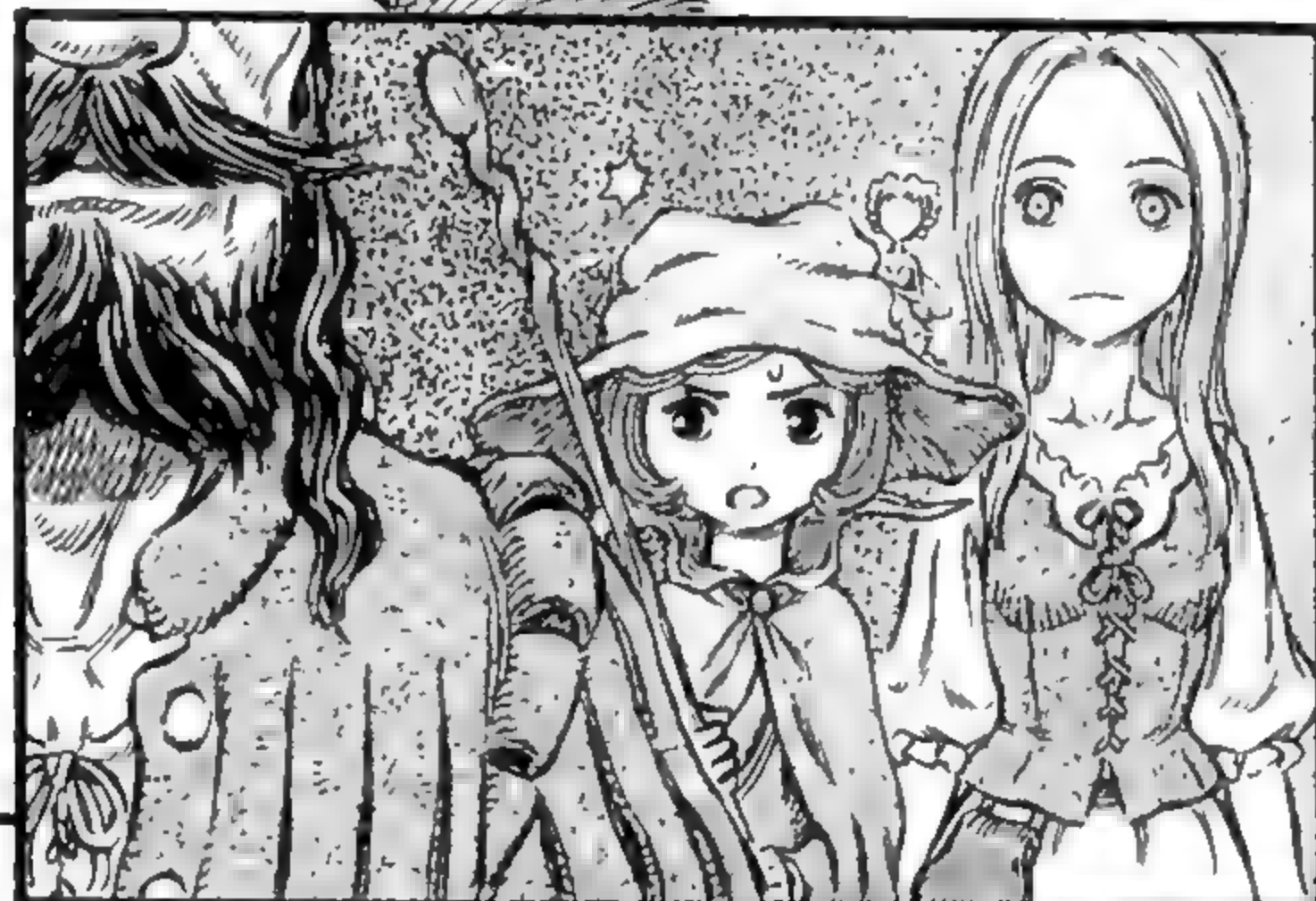
DON'T
YOU MESS
AROUND
WITH
GROWNUPS!!

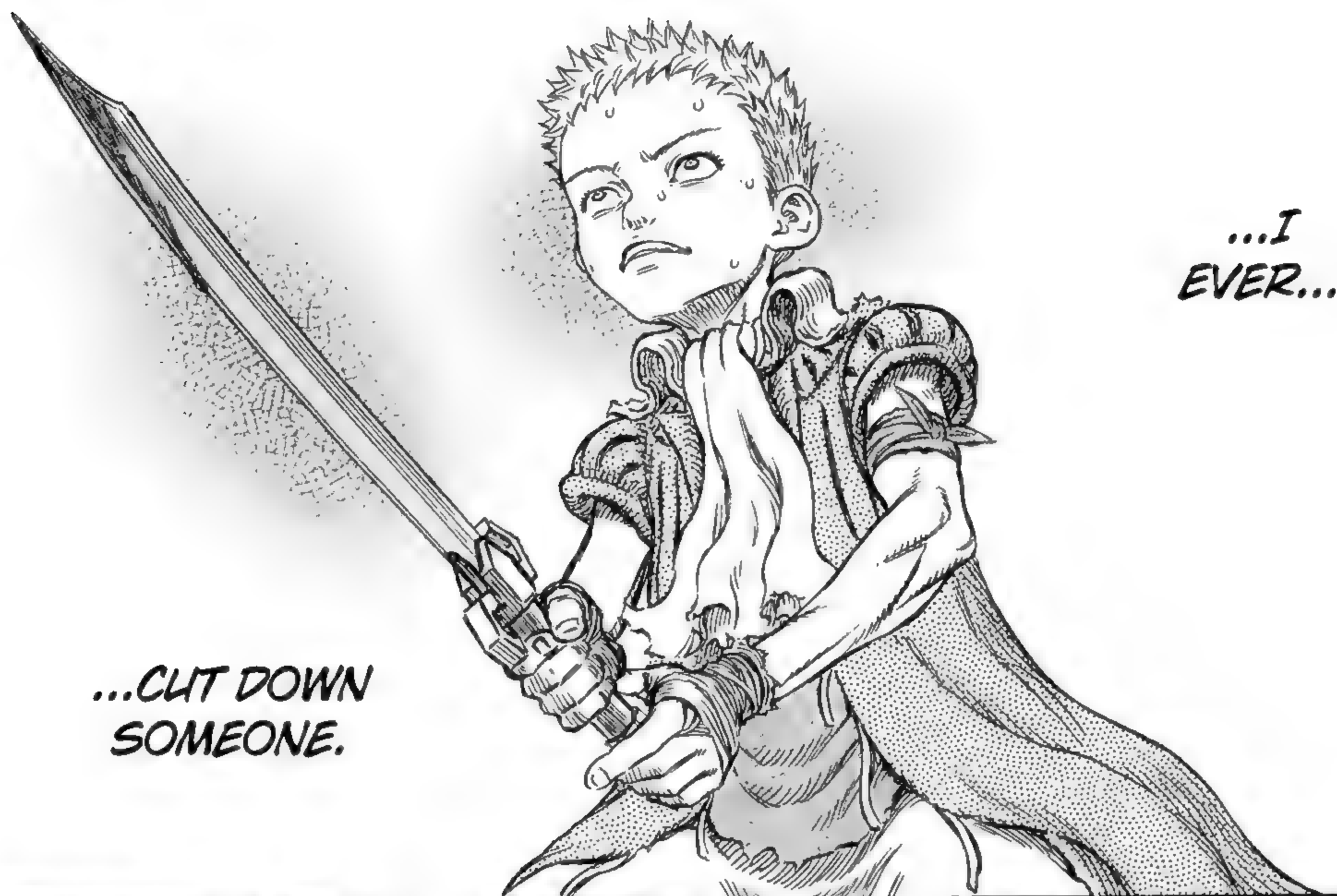
Y'LITTLE
SONUVA
BITCH!!

'CAUSE
YOU'RE
SO MA-
TURE.

*SHAPP

THUD
NG





...I
EVER...

...CLIT DOWN
SOMEONE.



NOW THAT
WE'VE
SEEN OUR
BUDDY'S
BLOOD.

NOW YOU'VE LEFT
US NO CHOICE.
WE GOTTA DRAW,
TOO.

WE WON'T
GO EASY
JUST 'CAUSE
YOU'RE A
KID.



STOP
IT!!



NOW
THAT IT'S
COME TO
THIS...



KEEP QUIET
AND WATCH,
MISSY, IF
YOU DON'T
WANT TO
GET HURT.

WHOA!

.....!!



**DON'T
YOU USE
THAT!!**



**HE'S TRYING
TO HIDE
YOUR TRUE
COLORS.**

**HE'S JUST
STUBBORN.**

**THAT'S
NOT
IT.**



**COME
NOW...**

**WHAT
ARE
YOU SO
ANGRY
ABOUT
?!**

***LUNGE**



**YOU
LITTLE...**

**HE'S
HEROIC,
ISN'T
HE?
♡**



**SHE CAN
HEAR THE
THOUGHT
TRANSFER-
ENCE...?!**

**GO
FOR IT,
MONKEY
BOY!!**



*SHLAK



*FX: JUMP

*FX: THOCK

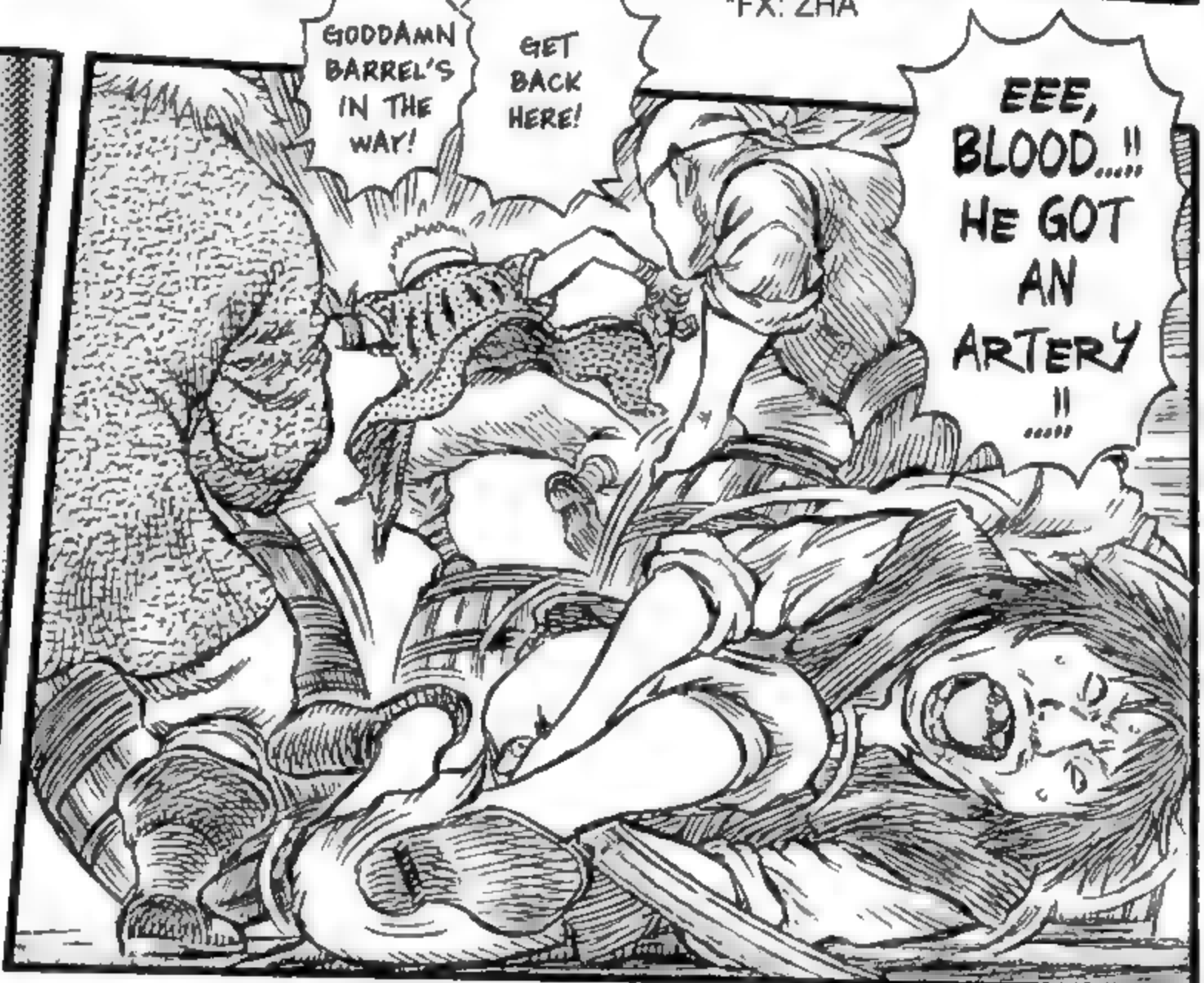


QUIT
SNEAKIN'
AROUND
...!!



*SHNNK

HYOWNW!

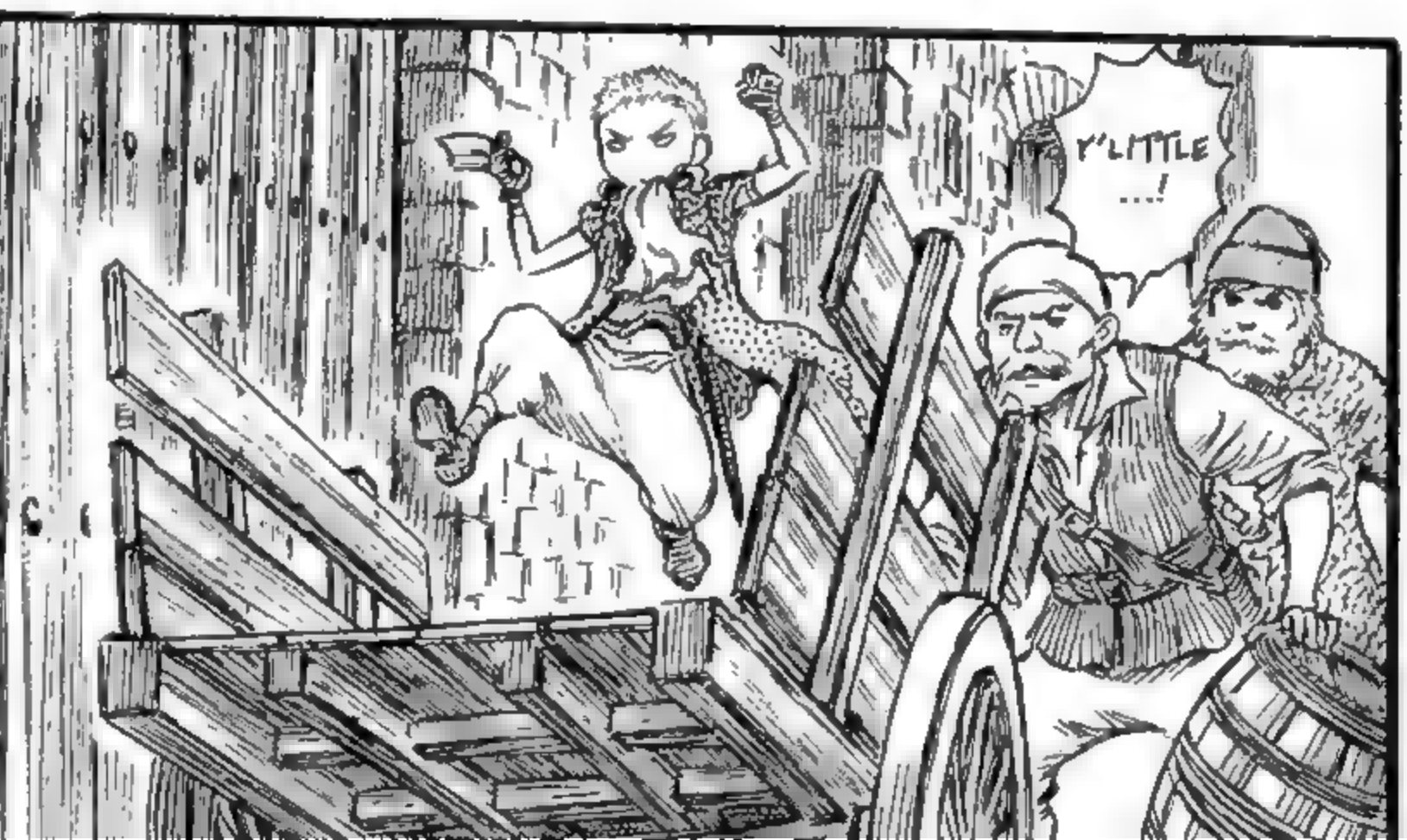


*FX: ZHA

GODDAMN
BARREL'S
IN THE
WAY!

GET
BACK
HERE!

EEE,
BLOOD....!!
HE GOT
AN
ARTERY
!!
.....



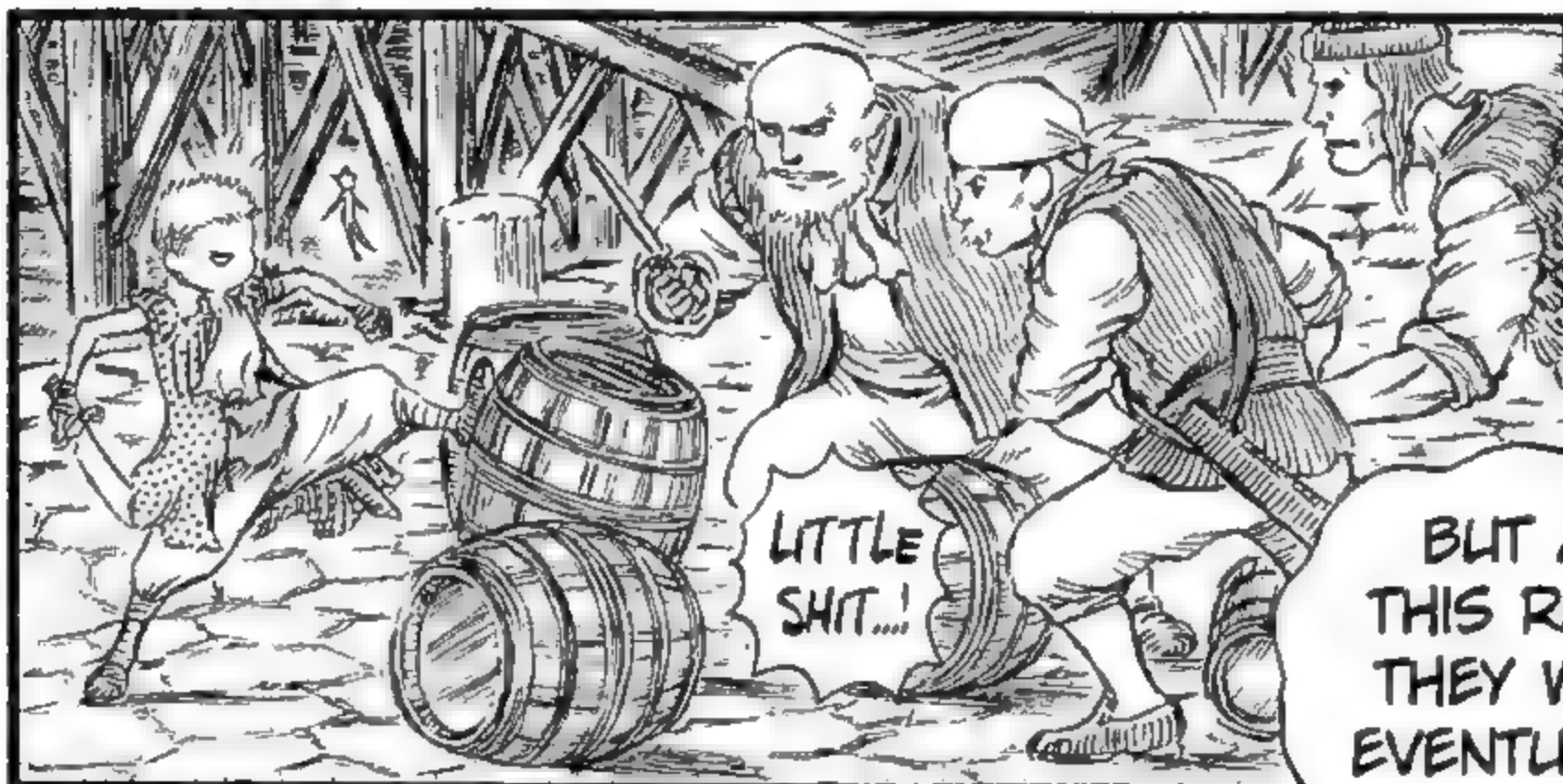
Y'LITTLE
....!



*FX: FLASH

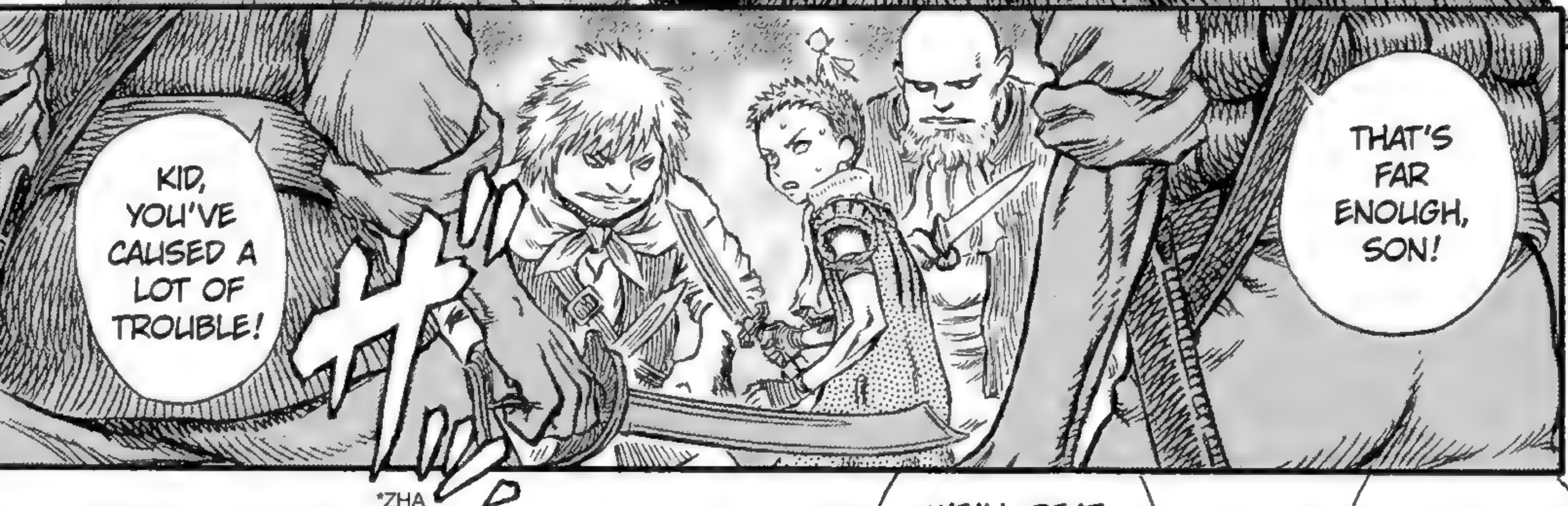


*FX: FLSSH



BUT AT
THIS RATE,
THEY WILL
EVENTUALLY
CATCH HIM...







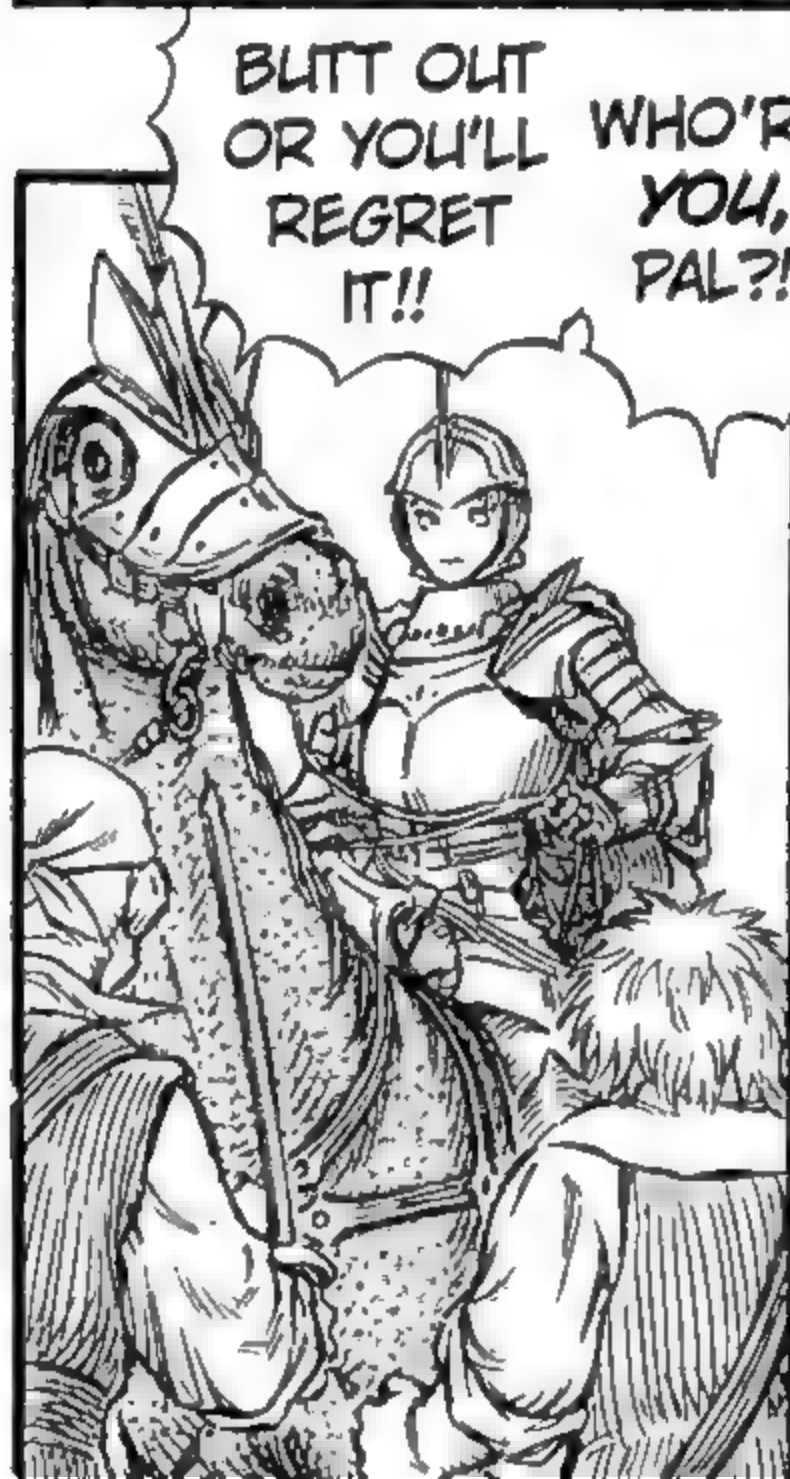
*HRRRRHRRN

WHAT
THE...?!



YOU
MUST'VE
FOLLOWED
ME!!

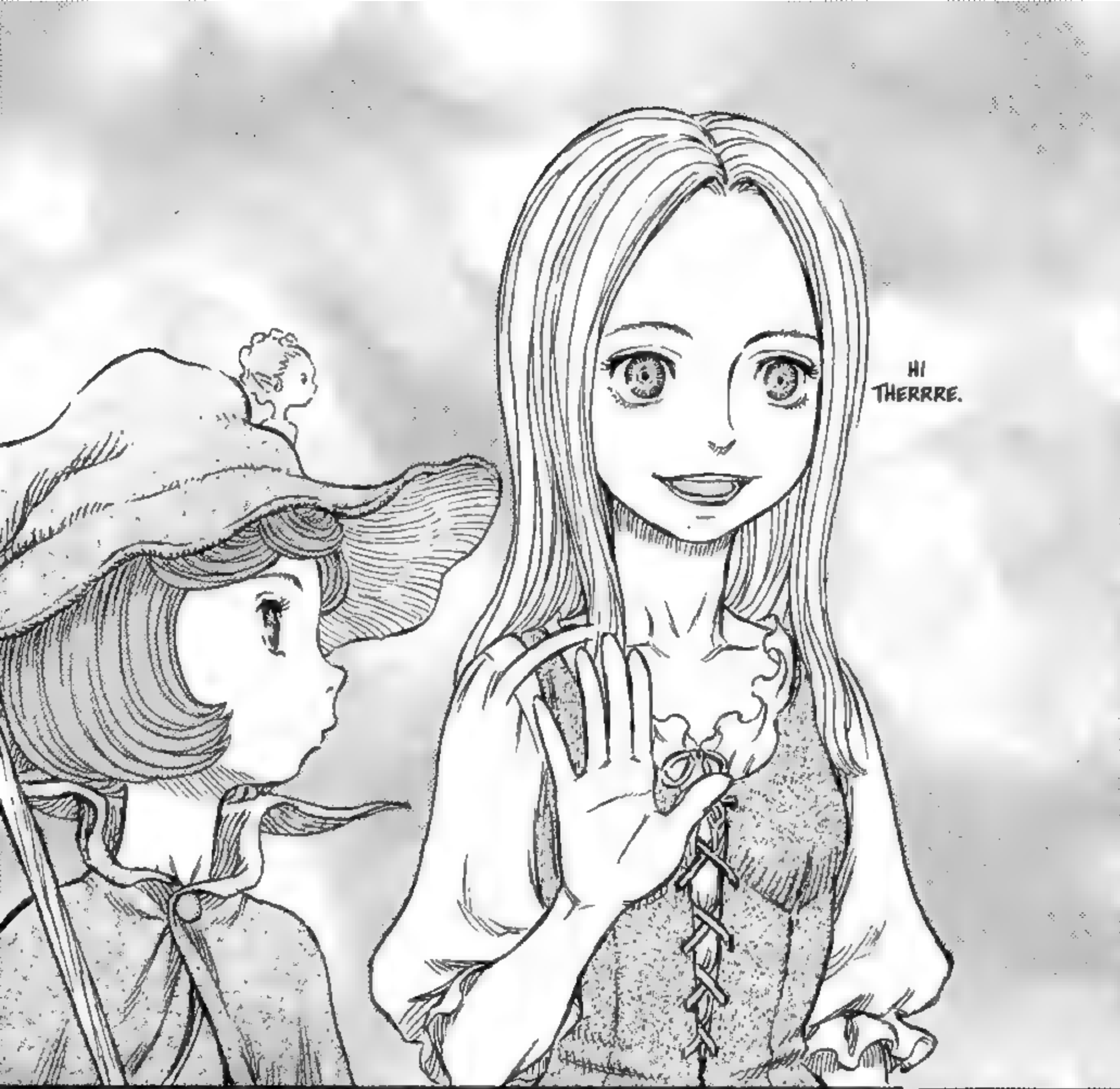
YOU'RE
THAT GLY
FROM--



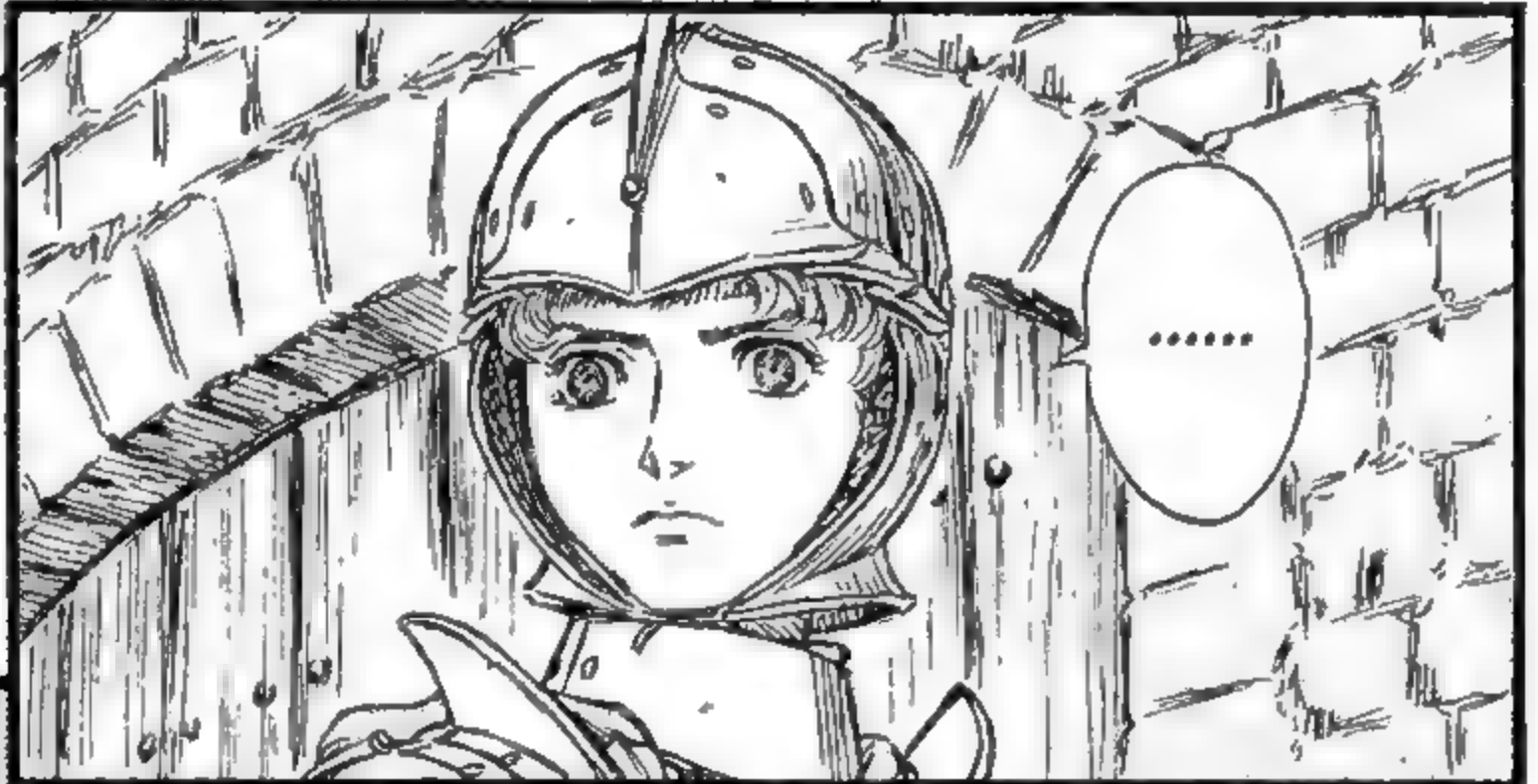
BUTT OUT
OR YOU'LL
REGRET
IT!!

WHO'RE
YOU,
PAL?!

*BHHRSH



*FX: HAHHH



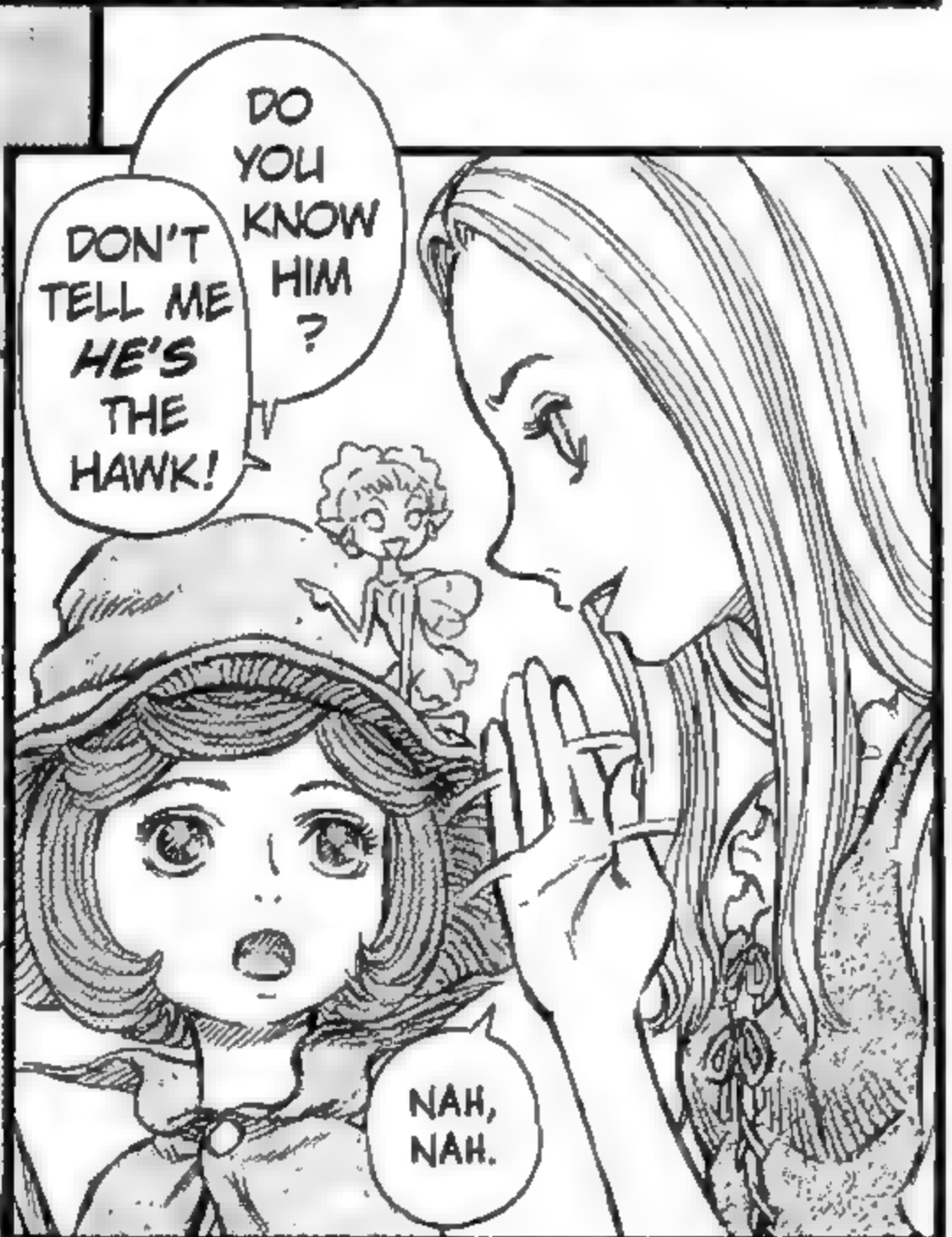
YOU.

...OR
SOME-
THING
LIKE THAT,
I
GUESS?



"THE
DUCK
KNIGHT."

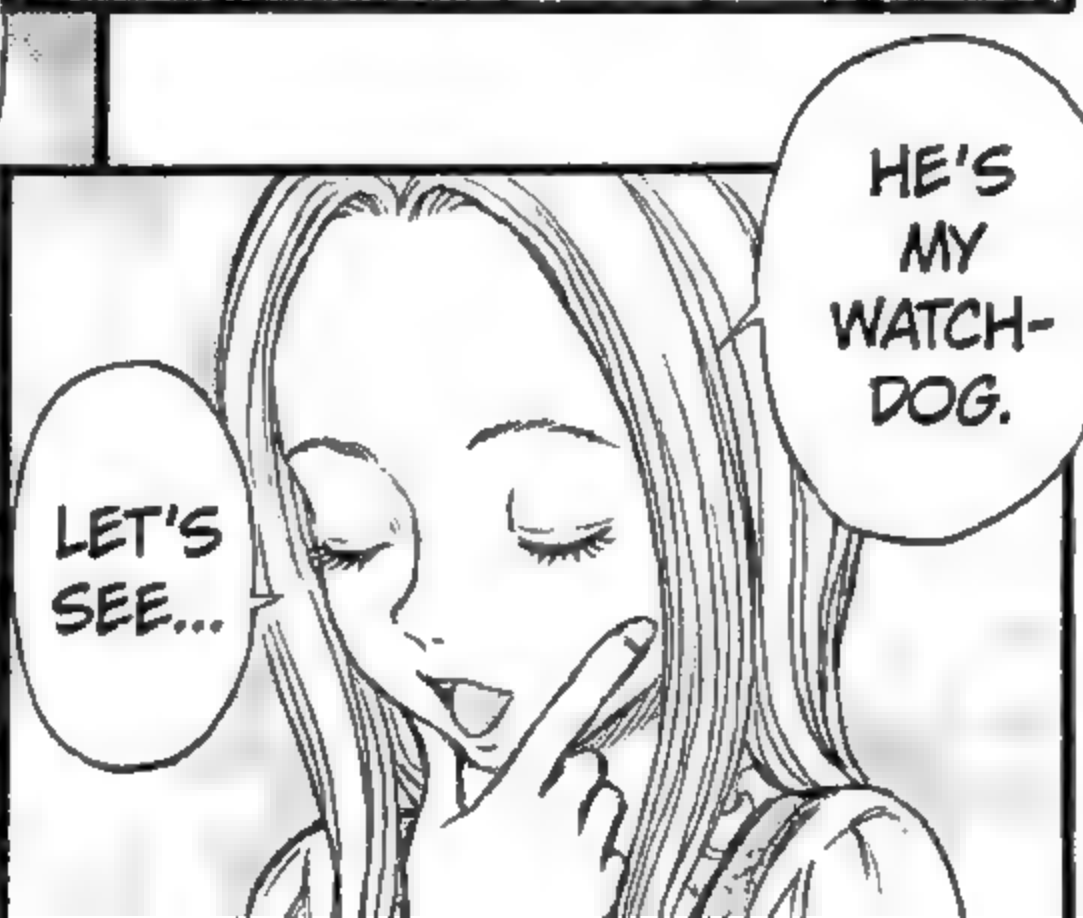
AGAIN
WITH HER
NONSENSE.



DON'T
TELL ME
HE'S
THE
HAWK!

DO
YOU
KNOW
HIM
?

NAH,
NAH.



LET'S
SEE...

HE'S
MY
WATCH-
DOG.



OHH?!
YOU WANT
A FIGHT?!
DAMMIT,
THIS'S WHY
KIDS'RE
SO--

NOBODY
ASKED
YOU!!

HEY!



WHOSE
PUPIL
BE HE?

*HYNN



I'LL
LEND
YOU A
HAND.

LOOKS
LIKE MY
COMPANION'S
IN YOUR
CARE.

*SHNNK



*CHK

*BDADUMP

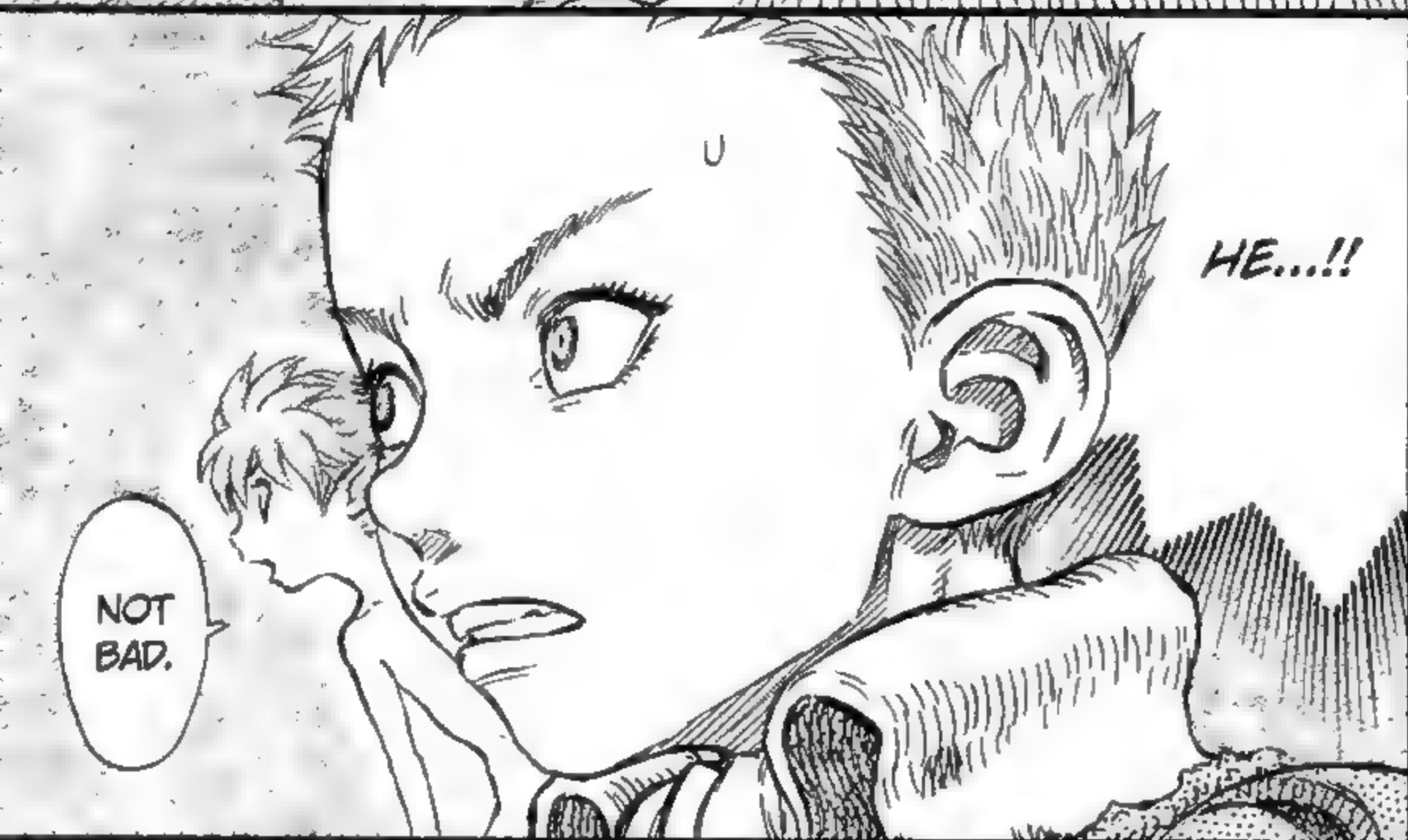


*BDADUMP

*SHNNK



*FX: VSSHHHH

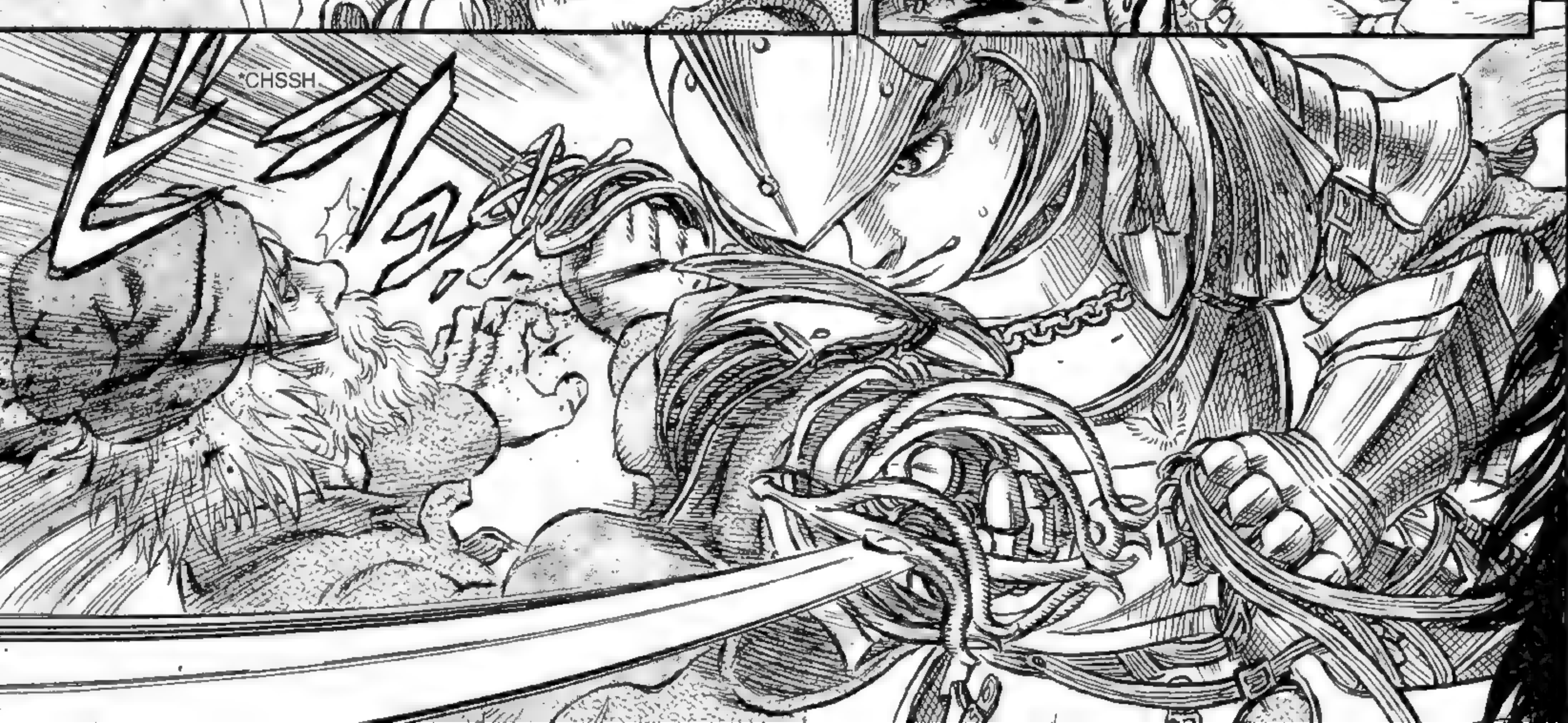


HE...!!



M-MY
ARM...!! MY
ARRRM...!!

*TWITCH



*CHSSH



DROPEY...



...SLEW
WITHOUT
HESITATION!!

HE
FRIGGIN'...



I
WON'T...

*FX: SQUEEZE



...BE
SCARED!!

I
WON'T...

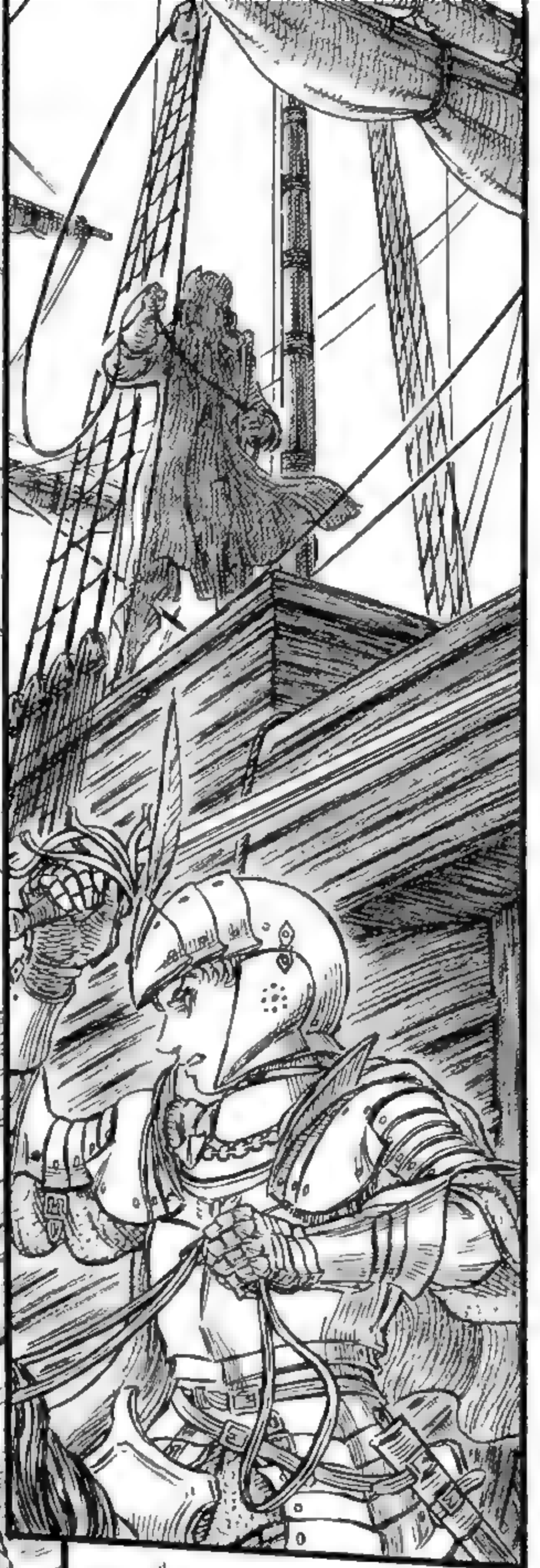
*RAHHH



*CHINNG

*FLASH

*ZHHF





THIS IS
WHY
I HATE
KIDS.

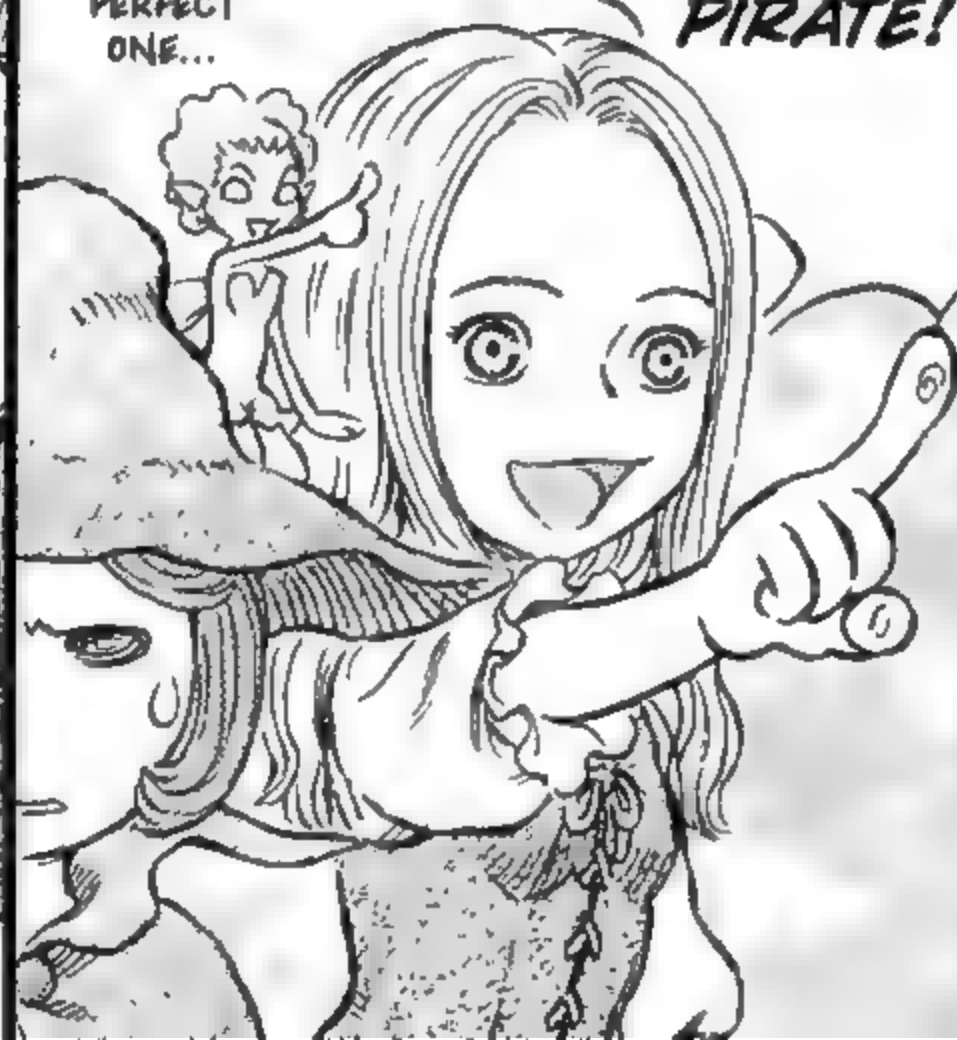
**BOSS
MAN!**

THEY DON'T
KNOW THEIR
PLACE WHEN
DEALIN' WITH
ADULTS.



A
PICTURE-
PERFECT
ONE...

I SAY
PIRATE!



武者 WARRIOR



HAH

HAH
HAH

EVEN ACTIN'
OUTTA SOME
SENSE OF
JUSTICE, IF YOU
TRAMPLE 'EM,
THAT DEMANDS
A BIT OF
PUNISHMENT.

TEACHIN'
CHILDREN
MANNERS IS
WE ADULTS'
RESPONSIBILITY,
AFTER ALL.

LOOK
HERE,
YOU LOT.

THERE'S
SOLEMN
RULES
WHEN IT
COMES
TO ADULT
SOCIETY.

カ
カ
カ

*FX: HAH HAH HAH

*FX: GRAB



EEEEEE!

KILL
THOSE
BRATS
....!!

P-PLEASE,
BOSS
MAN!!!



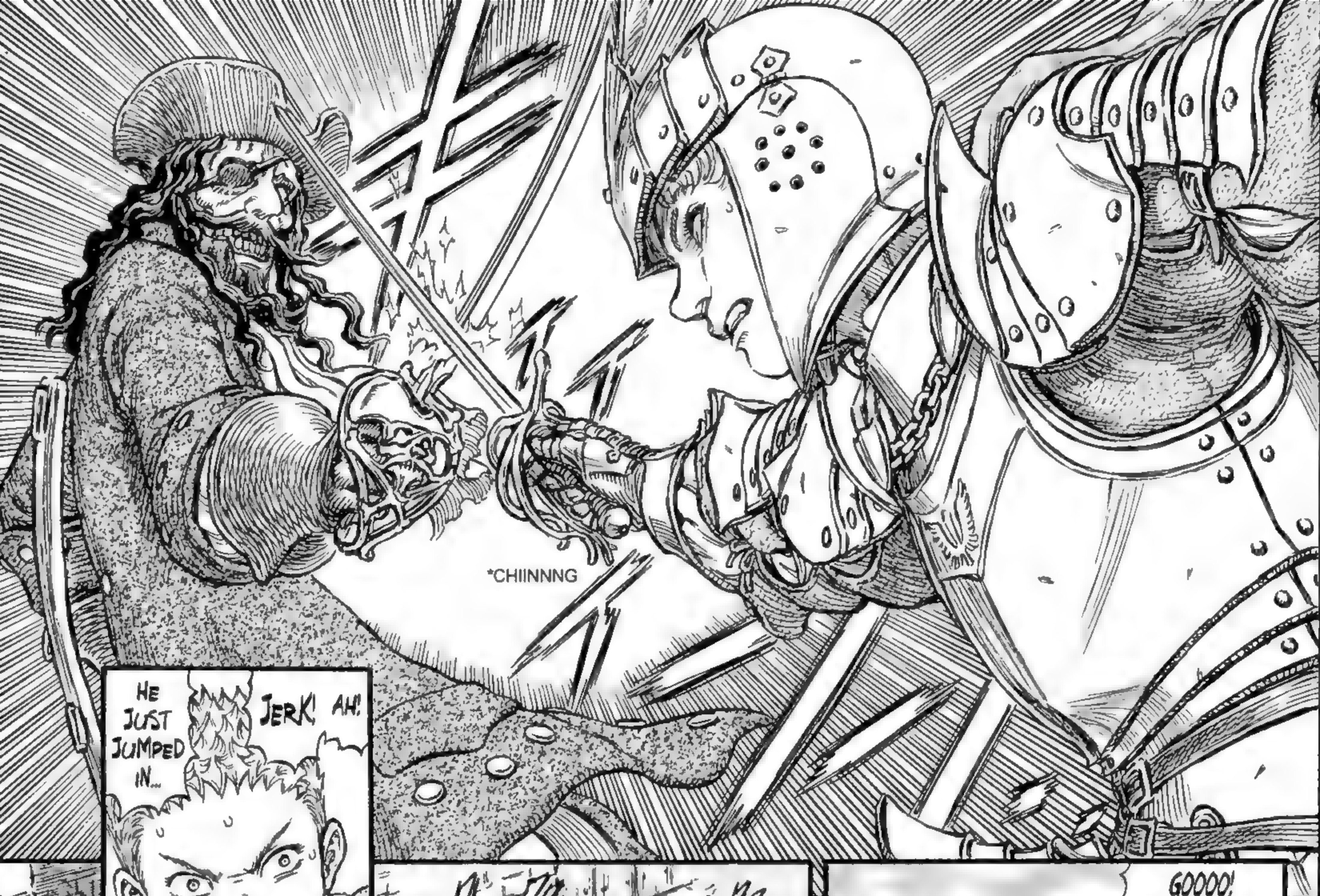


*FX: TOSS

*FX: KRIK KRIK

*FX: INCH





HE JUST JUMPED IN... JERK! AH!



GOOOO! WIN, AND GET PROMOTED FROM DOMESTIC TO WILD DUCK!

HEY! KEEP STILL, YOU!



YOU SEEM TO HAVE QUITE SOME EXPERIENCE, FOR YOUR AGE.

THE ORTHODOX ARISTOCRAT SCHOOL OF FIGHTING.

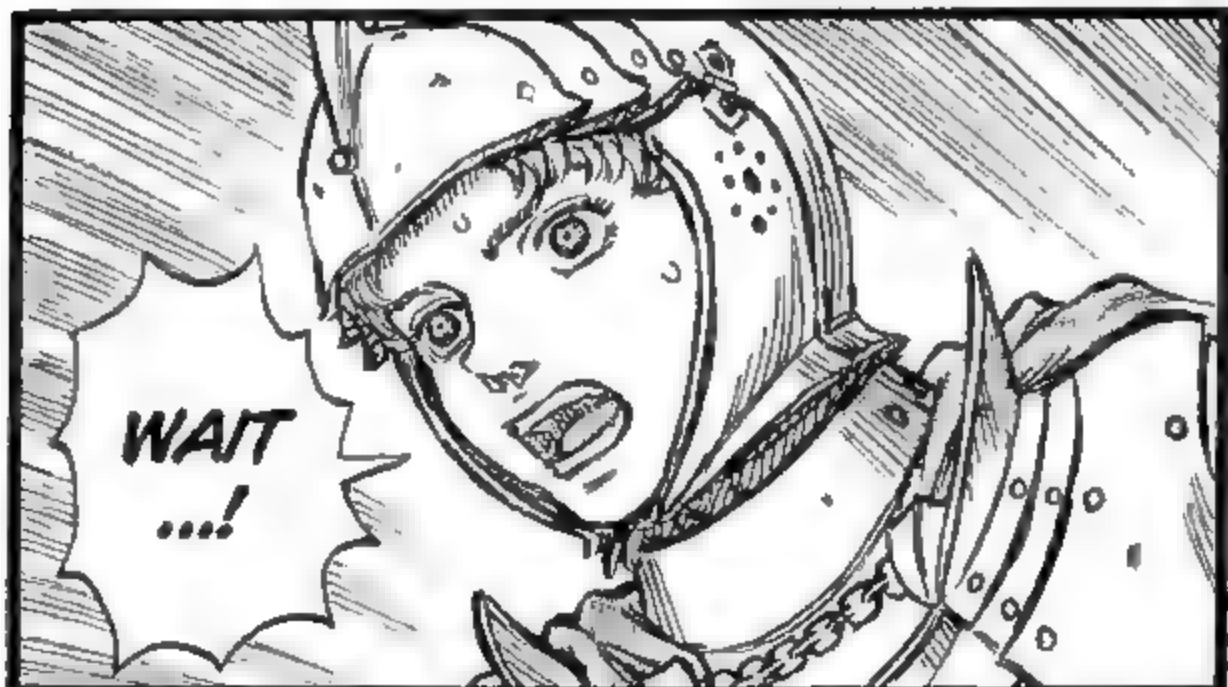
YOU'RE OF QUITE THE STOCK.

*CLANNG

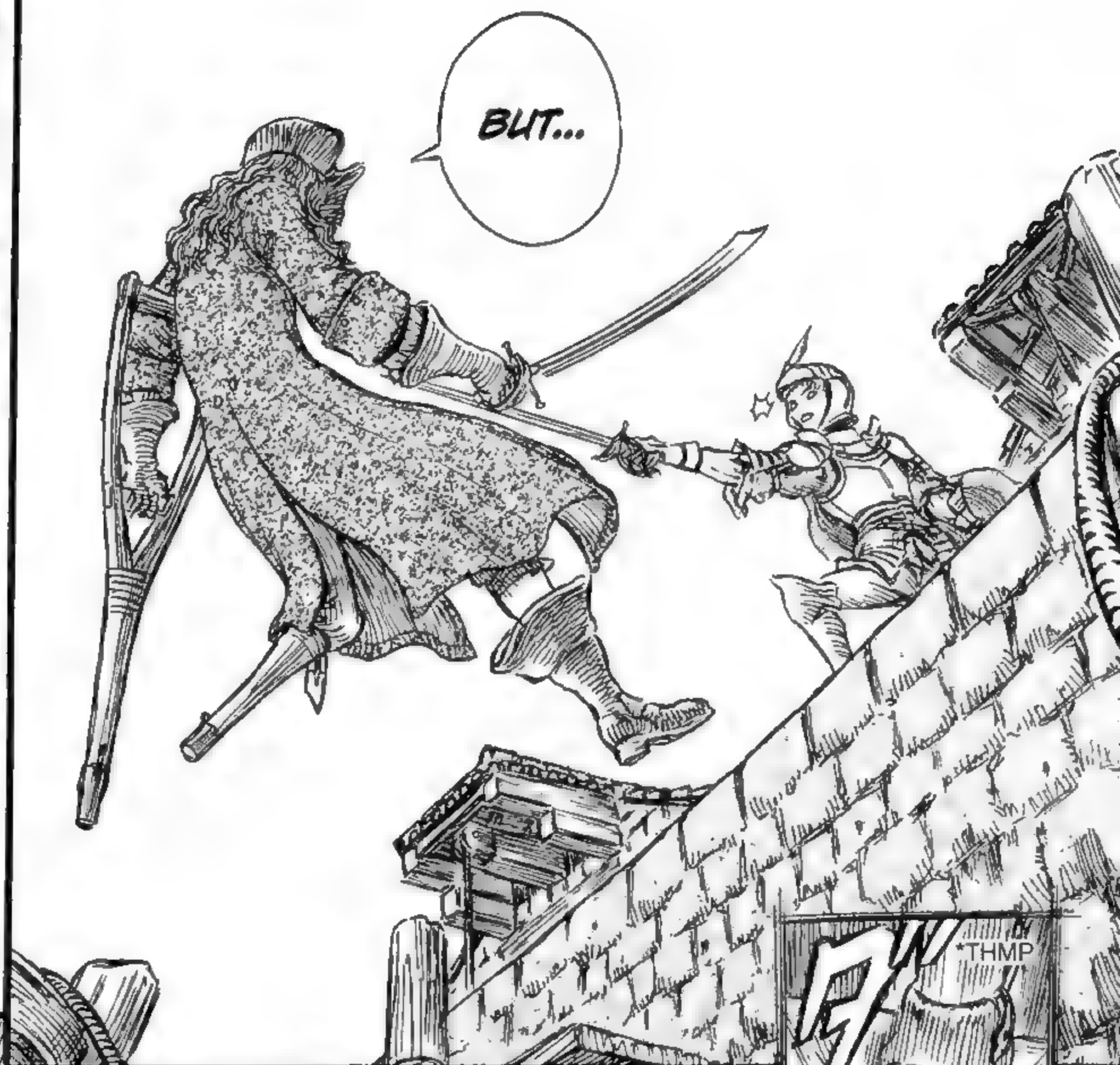


*FX: BLASH

*FX: TMP



WAIT
...!



BUT...

*TMP

*SWAYYYY

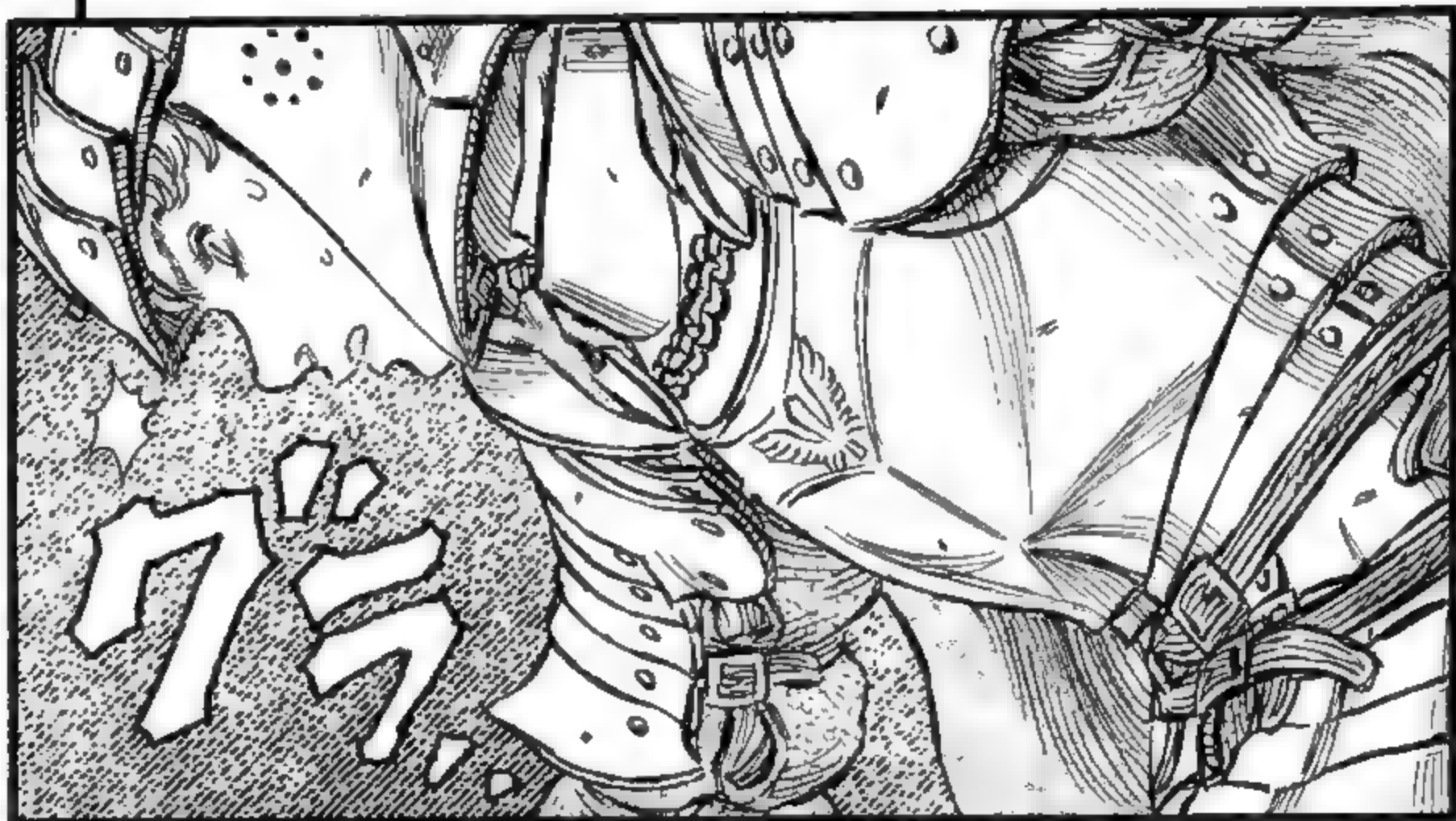


HAVE YOU ANY
EXPERIENCE CROSSING
SWORDS ON FOOTING
AS UNSTABLE AS *THIS*?



.....!!





*FX: TOTTER



*FX: BLOOSH

*THUDD

*GAJINNG



YOU LOOK
LIKE YOU'RE
OF NOBLE
BIRTH. MAYBE
I CAN GET
A RANSOM
FROM YOUR
RELATIVES...

NOW
THEN,
HOW
SHALL
WE GO
ABOUT
SETTLING
THIS?

...YOU'D
PROBABLY
FETCH A FINE
PRICE, SOLD
AS A MALE
PROSTITUTE TO
A KUSHAN
HAREM.

WITH
THEM
GRACEFUL
FEATURES
...

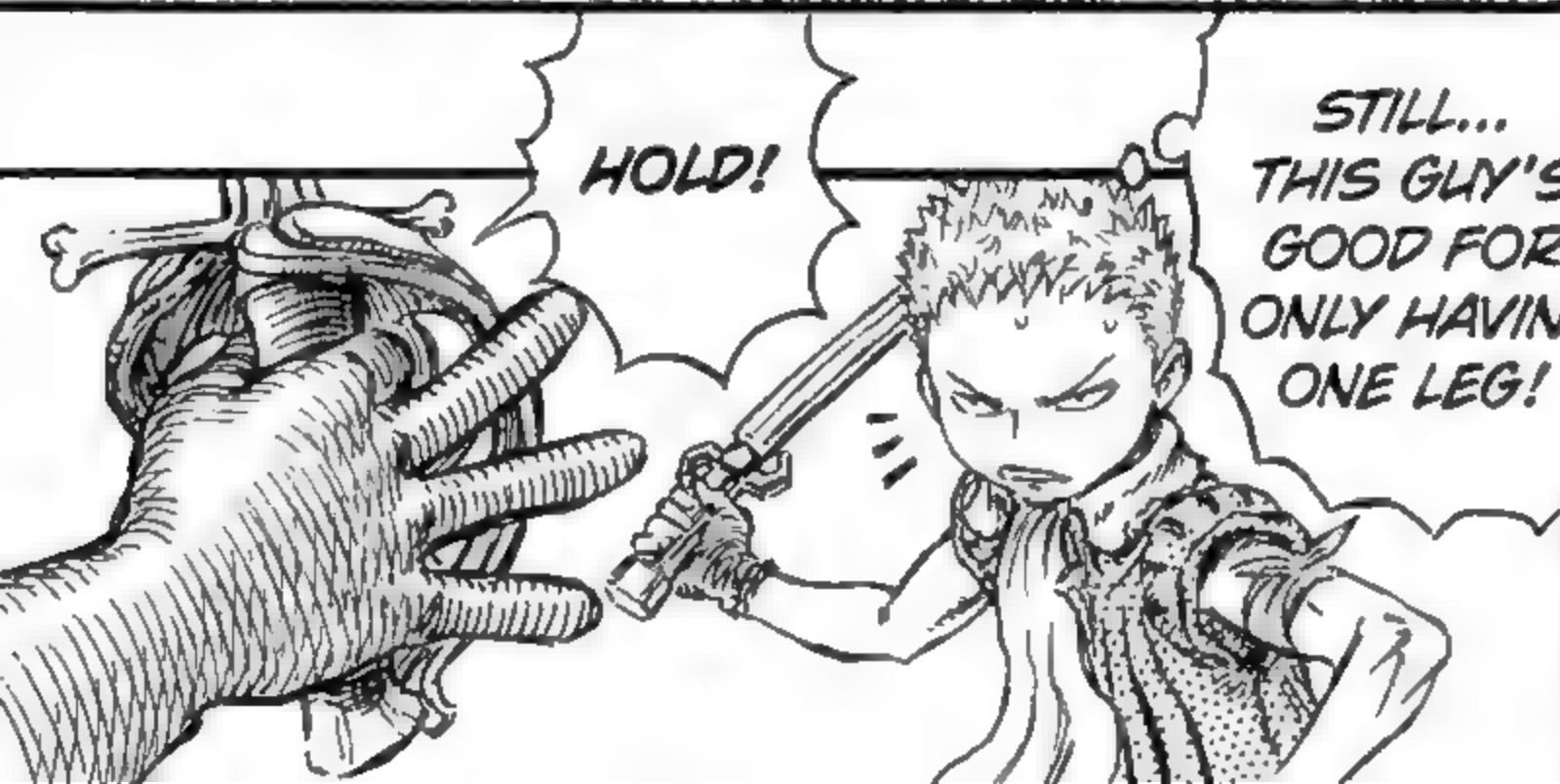
.....!!

THAT WOULD
BE THE
EXPERIENCE GAP.
YOU MUSTN'T
GO AROUND
TAUNTING ADULTS,
M'LAD.



*CLANNING







Y'KNOW,
YOU'RE
RIGHT.

WE
SURE
HAVE...



CHIK-

GUESS
THAT'S
AN OLD
HABIT
OF...



SO, CARE
TO WORK
FOR ME?
I'LL TRAIN
YOU
PERSONALLY.

IT STILL
NEEDS WORK,
BUT WITH
YOUR FIGHTING
STYLE YOU'D
MAKE A FINE
PIRATE.

SHOVE IT
UP YOUR
ASS! WHAT
HAPPENED
TO COMIN'
CLEAN?!

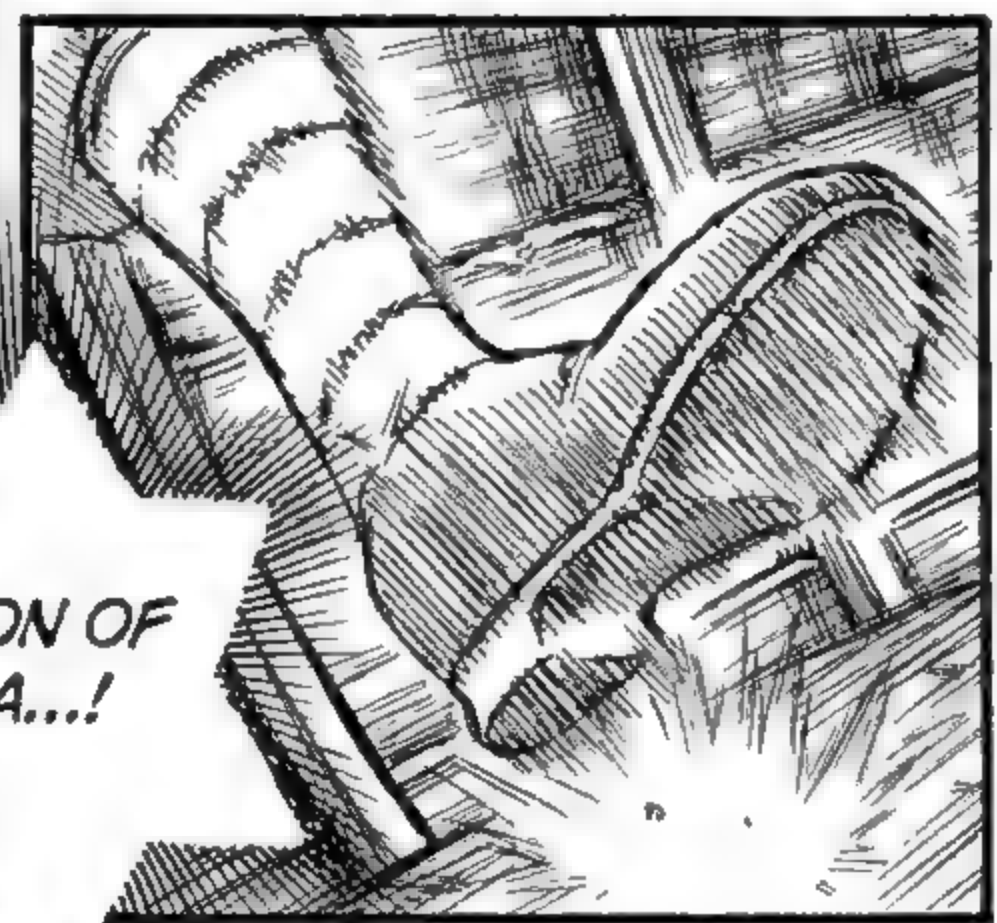


...MINE!

*VYNN



*VPP



SON OF
A...!

*ZHFAAA



...BUT YOUR
SWORD-
PLAY'S THAT
OF AN INEX-
PERIENCED
WHELP.

YOU'RE
TERRIBLE
LIVELY
ENOUGH...



...THIS
IS HOW
ADULTS
DO
THINGS,
LAD.

BUT...
WELL...



...AND
YOURS
AIN'T
GOT IT.

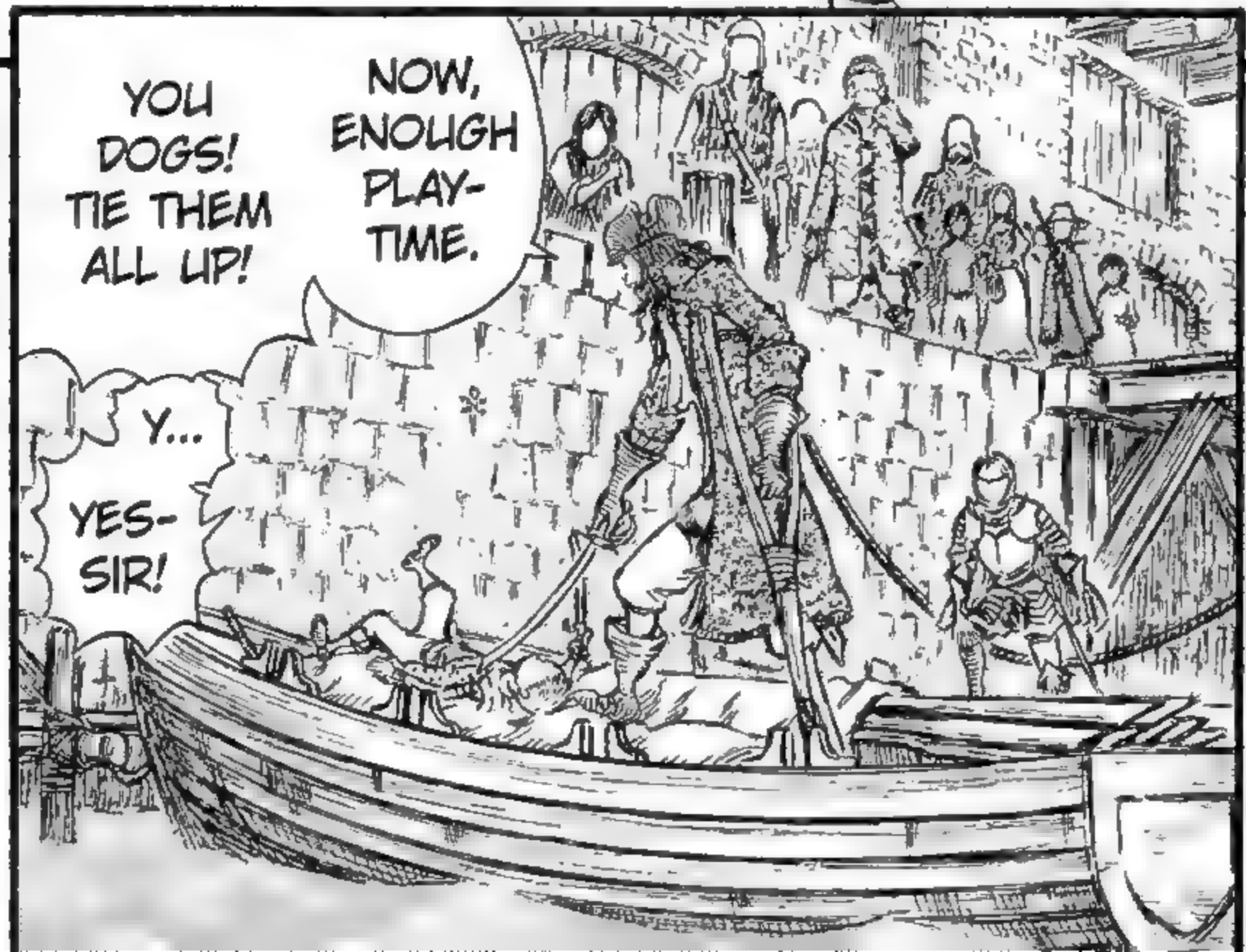
THERE'S A
THIRST FOR
BLOOD IN
SWORDPLAY
THAT SAYS YOU
WANT YOUR
OPPONENT'S
LIFE...



JUST A
USELESS
LITTLE KID
AFTER ALL.

OH HH,
SO CLOSE.
THE WILD
DUCK WILL
JUST HAVE
TO WAIT.

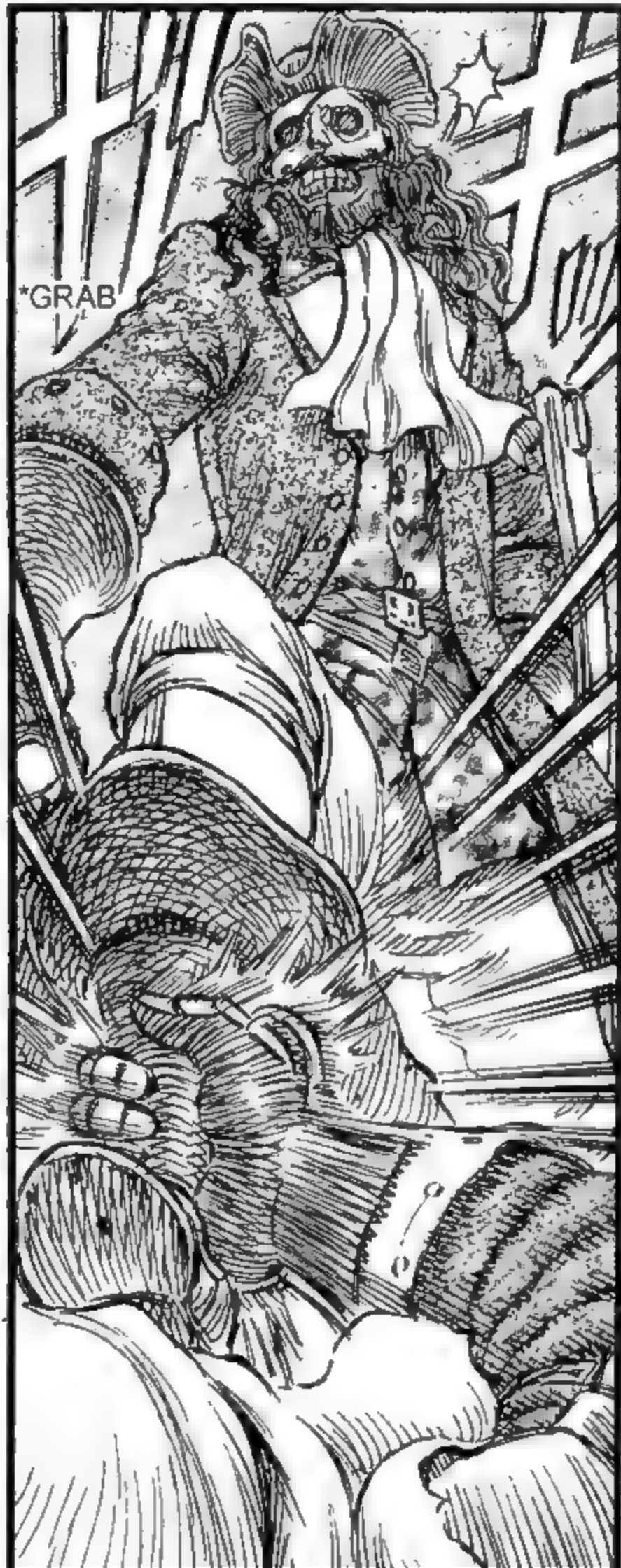
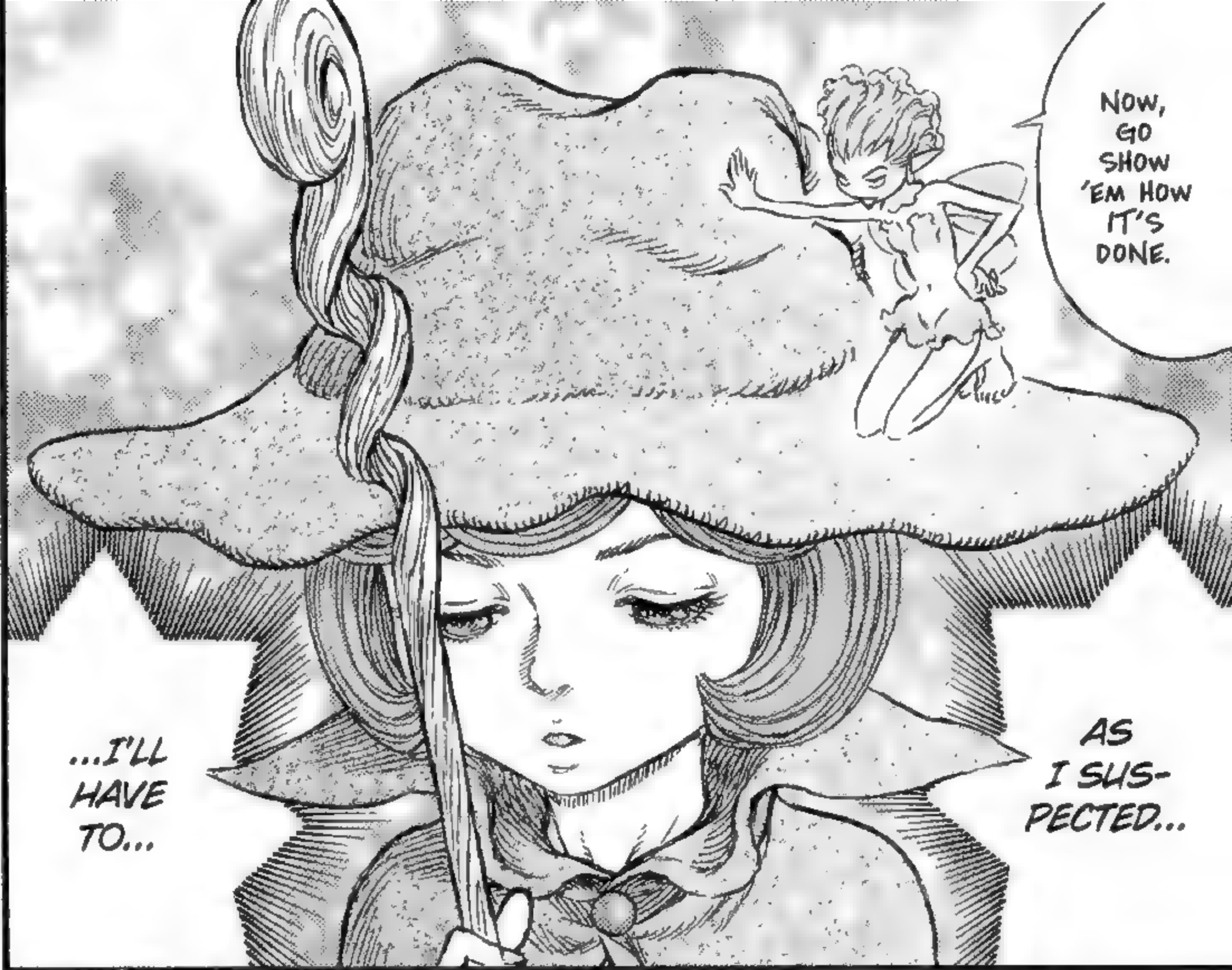
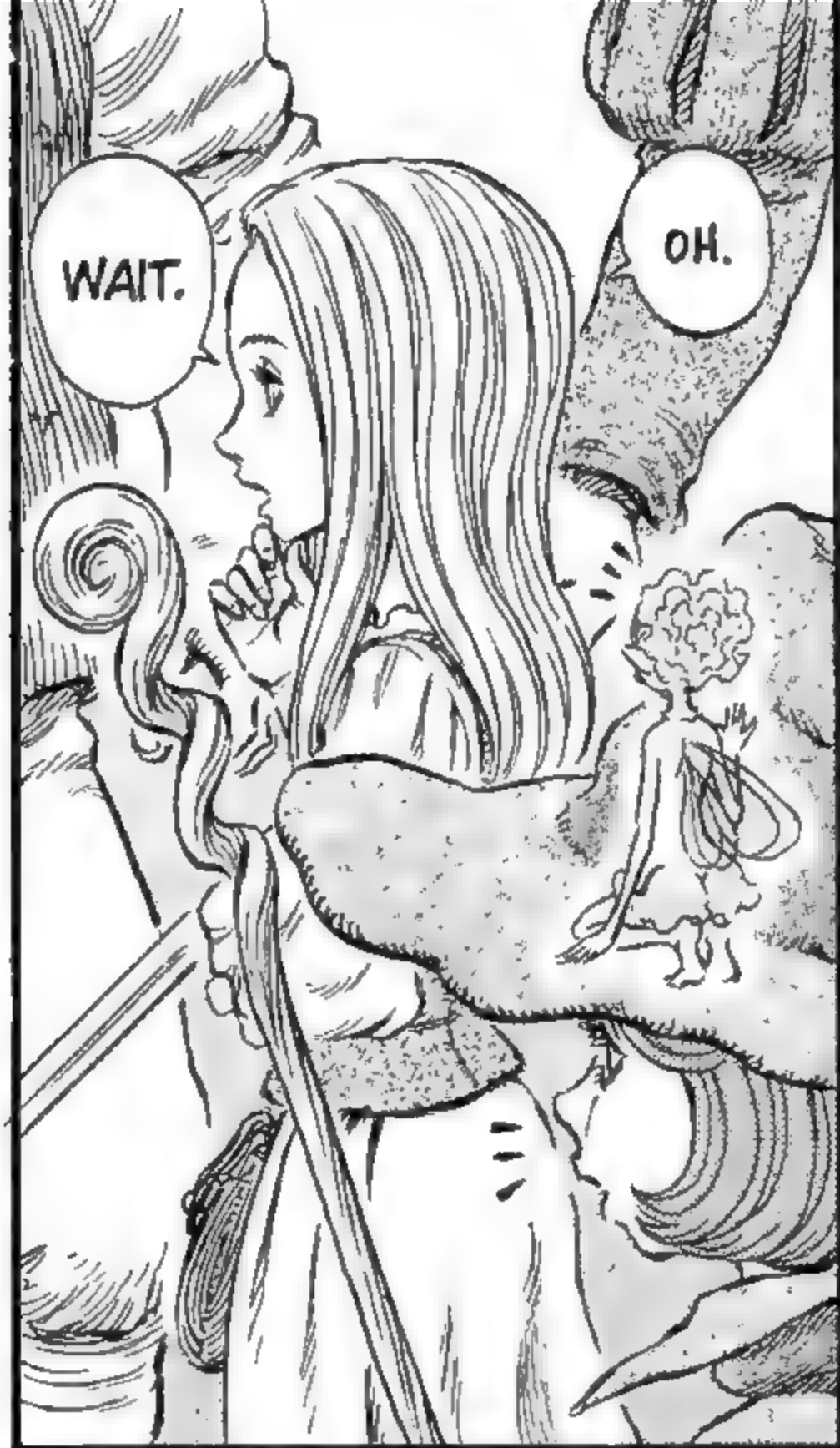
NO
STRUG-
GLIN',
NOW.



YOU
DOGS!
TIE THEM
ALL UP!

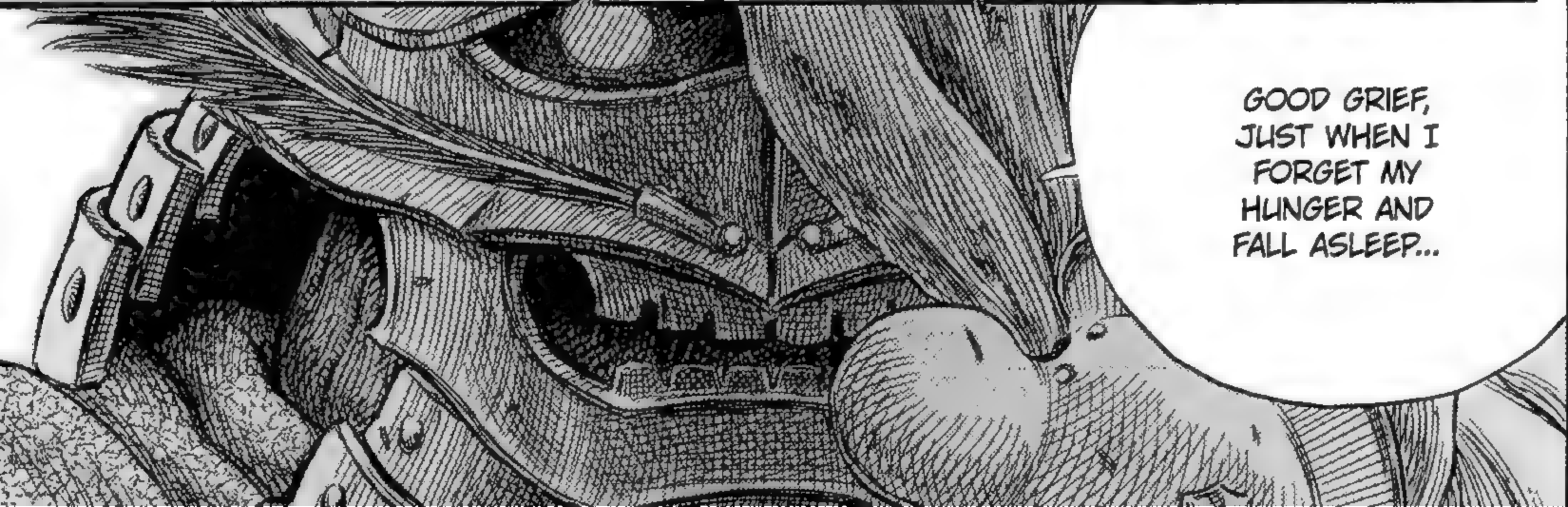
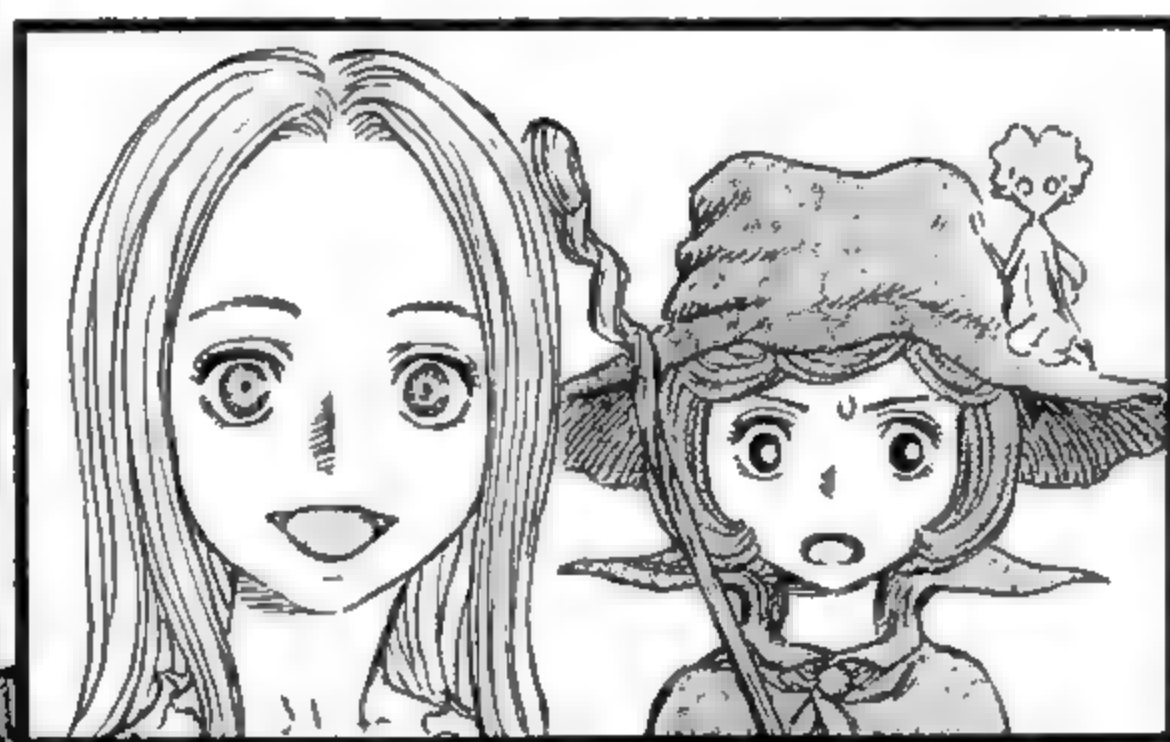
NOW,
ENOUGH
PLAY-
TIME.

Y...
YES-
SIR!





I JUST
TOLD YOU
TO WITH-
DRAWWWWW
!!

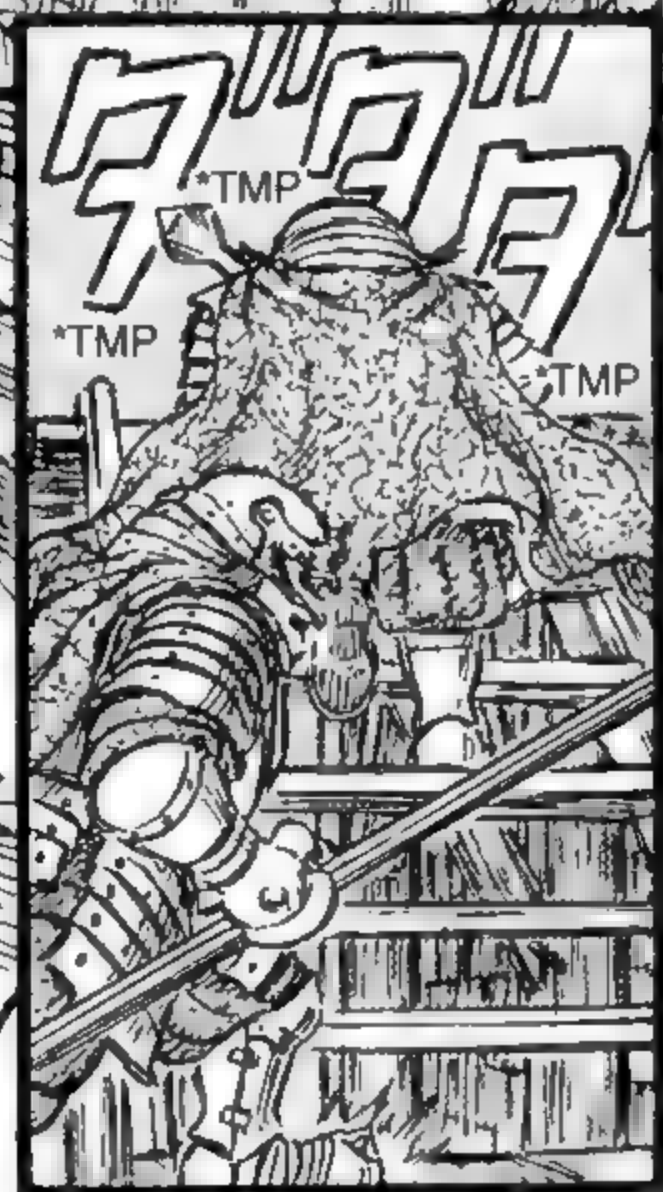
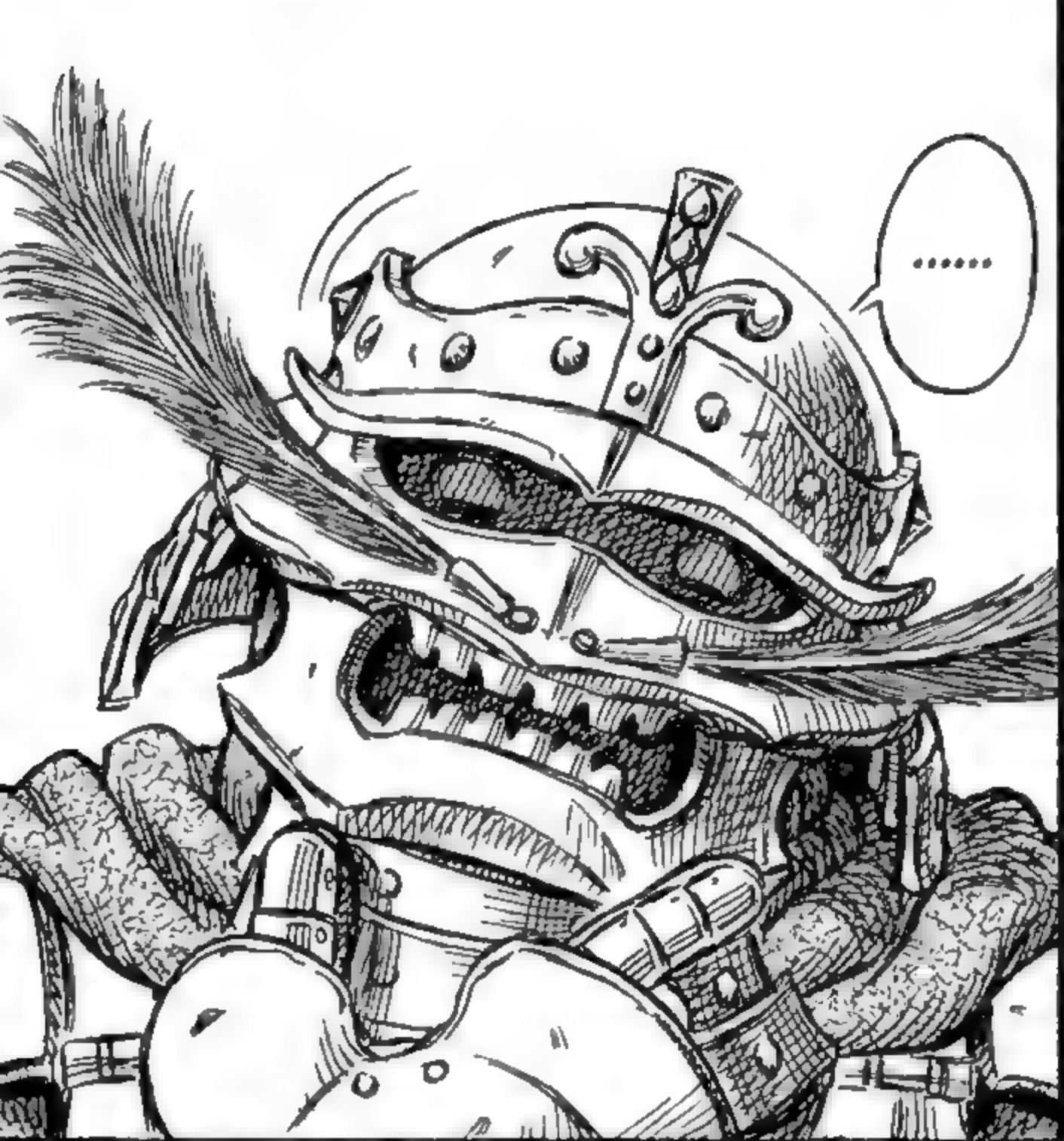


GOOD GRIEF,
JUST WHEN I
FORGET MY
HUNGER AND
FALL ASLEEP...

WHO
WOULD
DENI-
GRATE
THE FACE
OF A
KNIGHT
?!

WHO
DARES
?!







**I WILL
DEAL WITH
YOU!!!**

**SCOUN-
DRELS!!!**

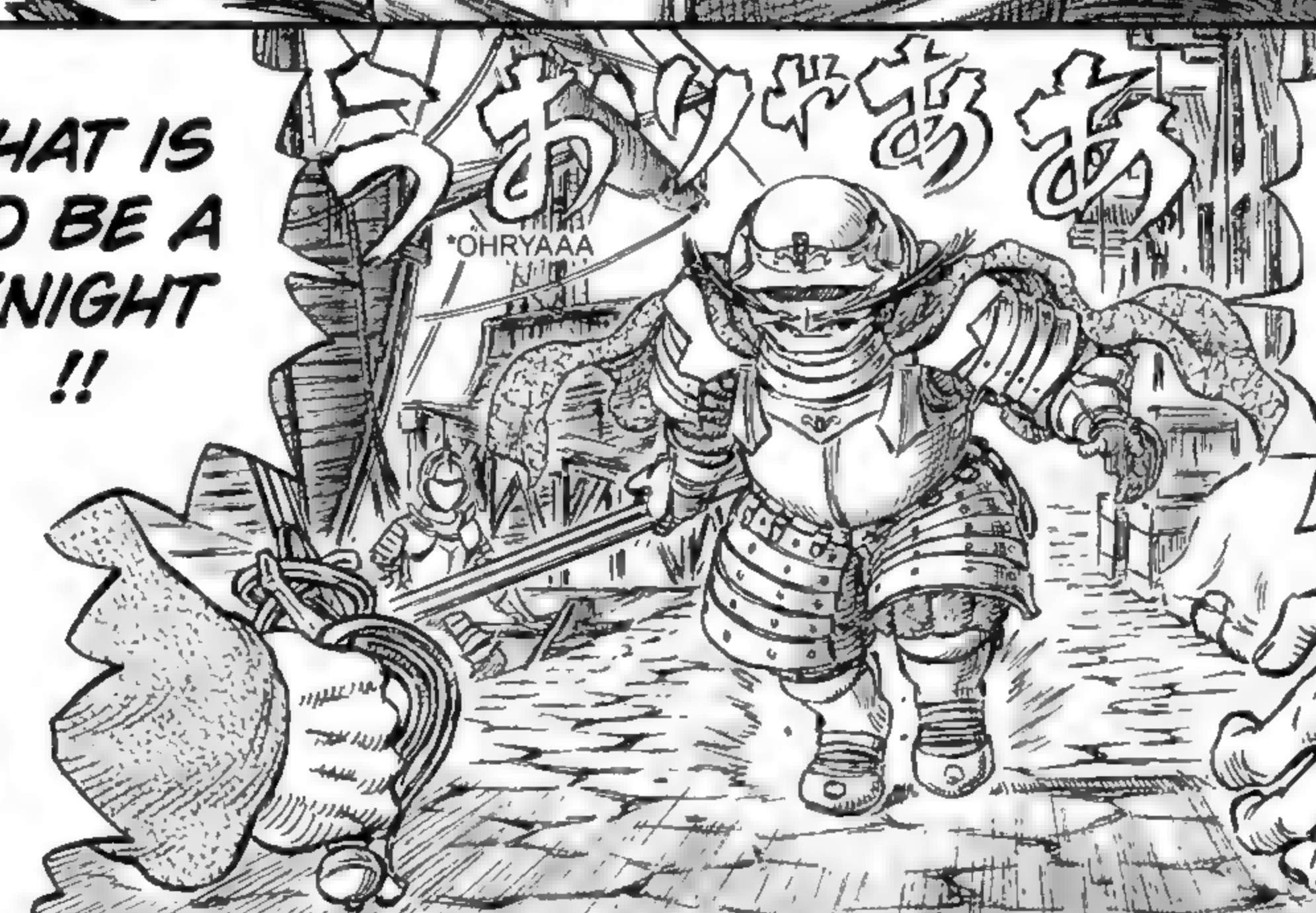


**OUTTA
NOWHERE
...?!**

**WH-
WHO THE
HELL'S
THAT?!**

**JUSTICE
IS IN MY
HEART!!!**

**A
KNIGHT'S
INTU-
ITION!!!**



**THAT IS
TO BE A
KNIGHT
!!**

**NO
NEED
FOR
ANY
WORDS
!!!**

**TO ACT
WHEN THE
TIME
ARRIVES
!!**

*WHOCK

*ZEIRYAAAA

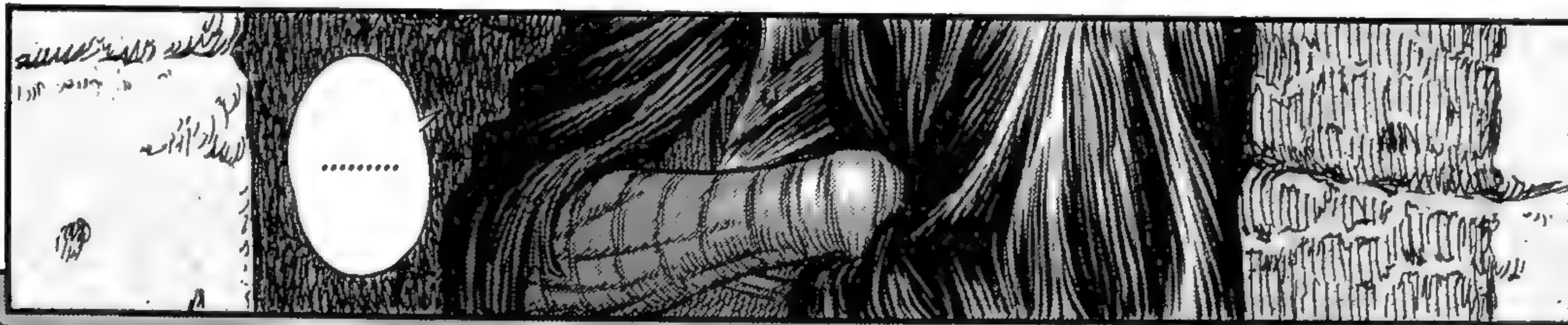
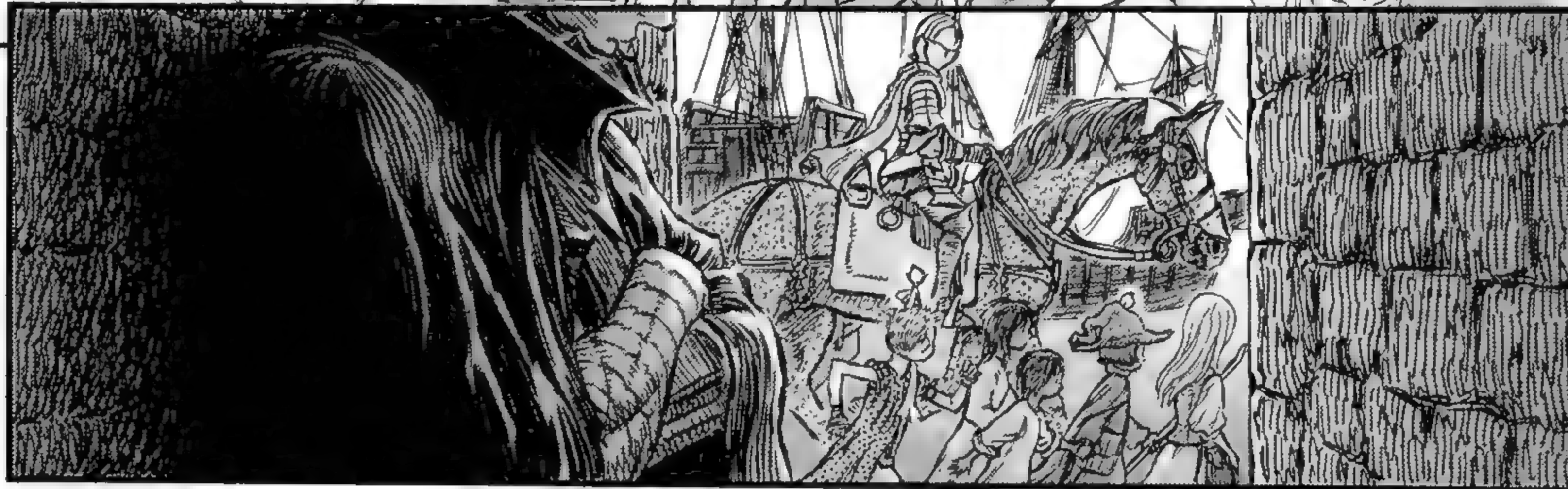
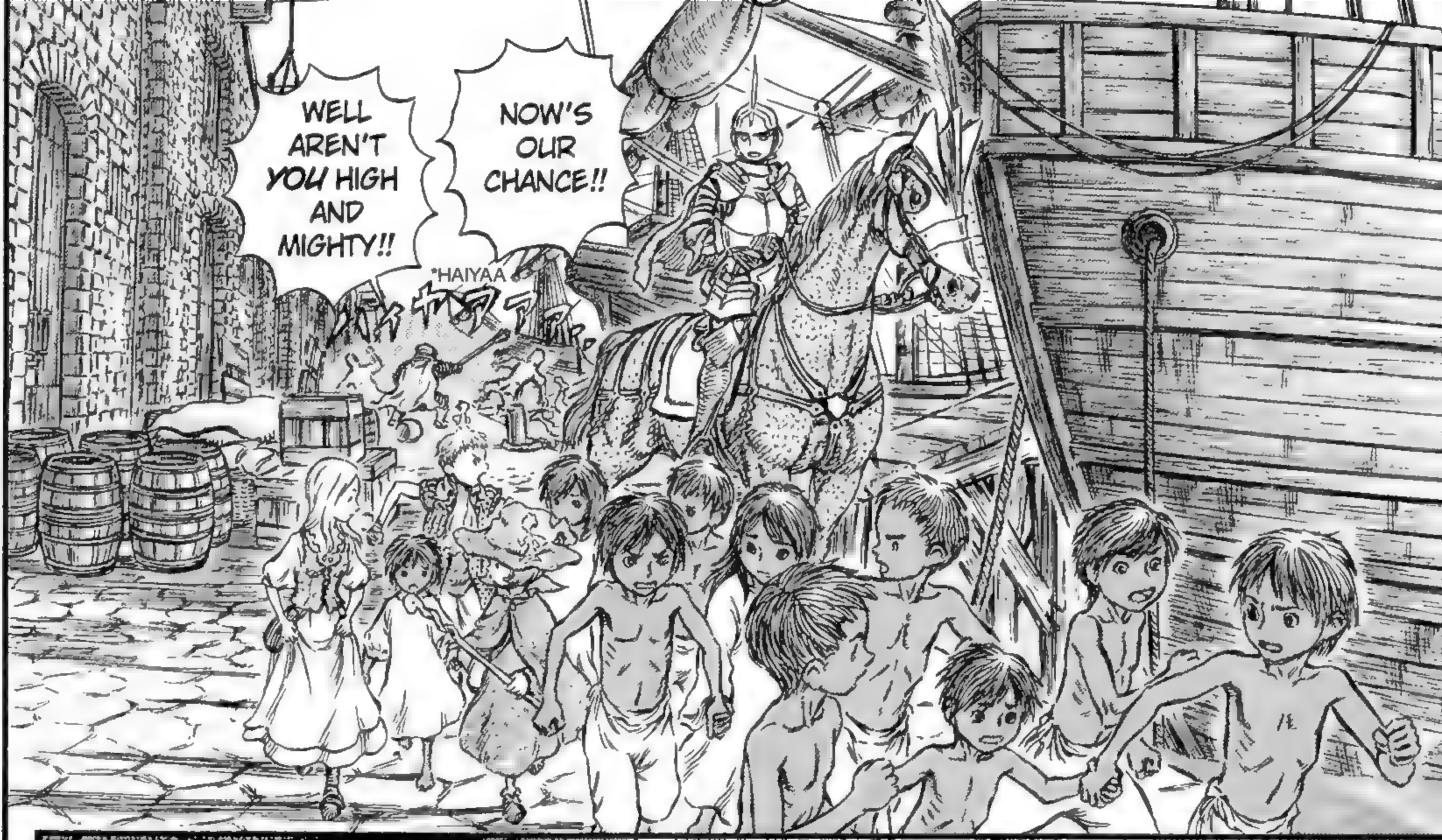
せーりゃあ

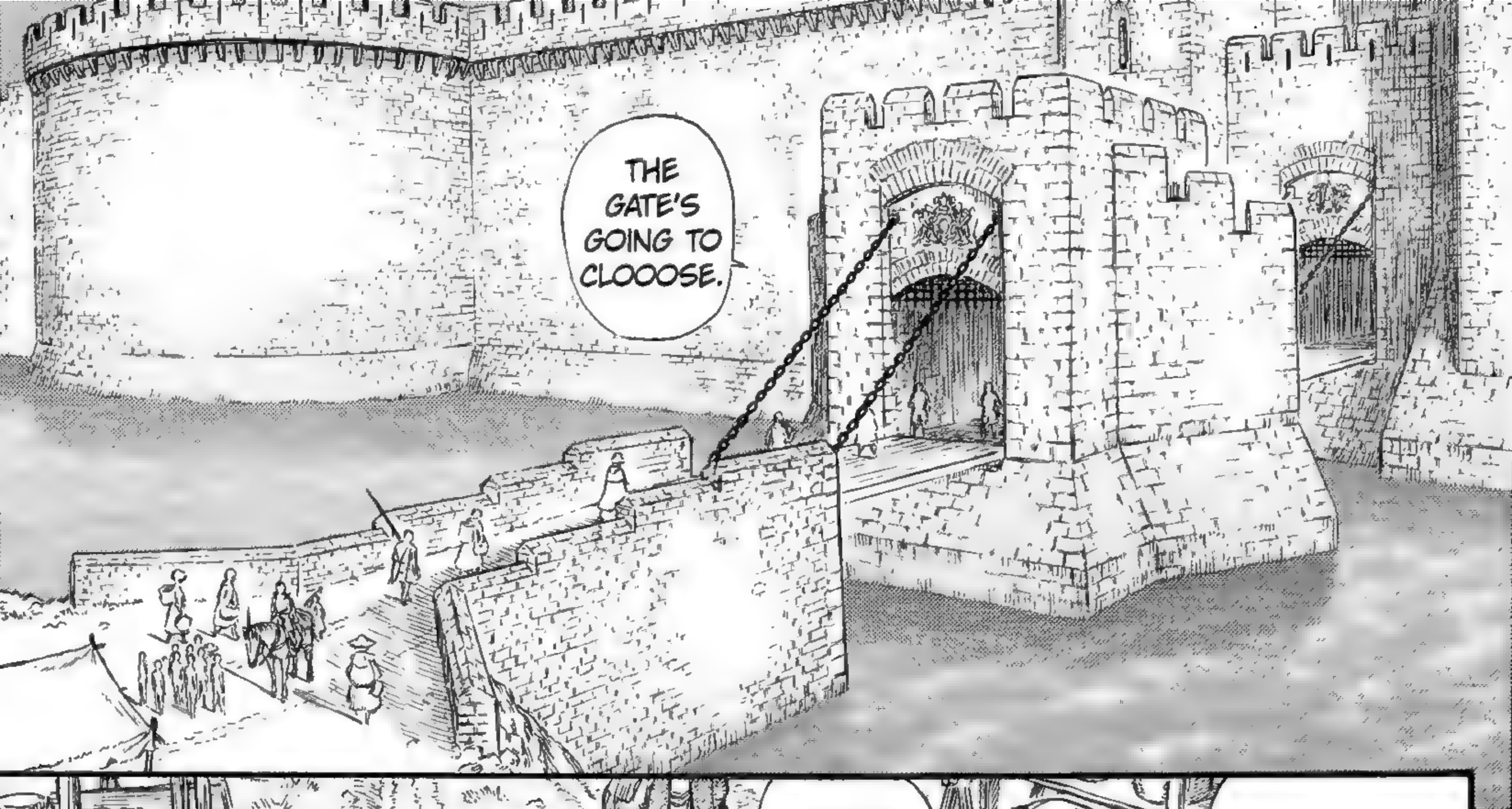
あ
あ

*WHACK

*WHACK







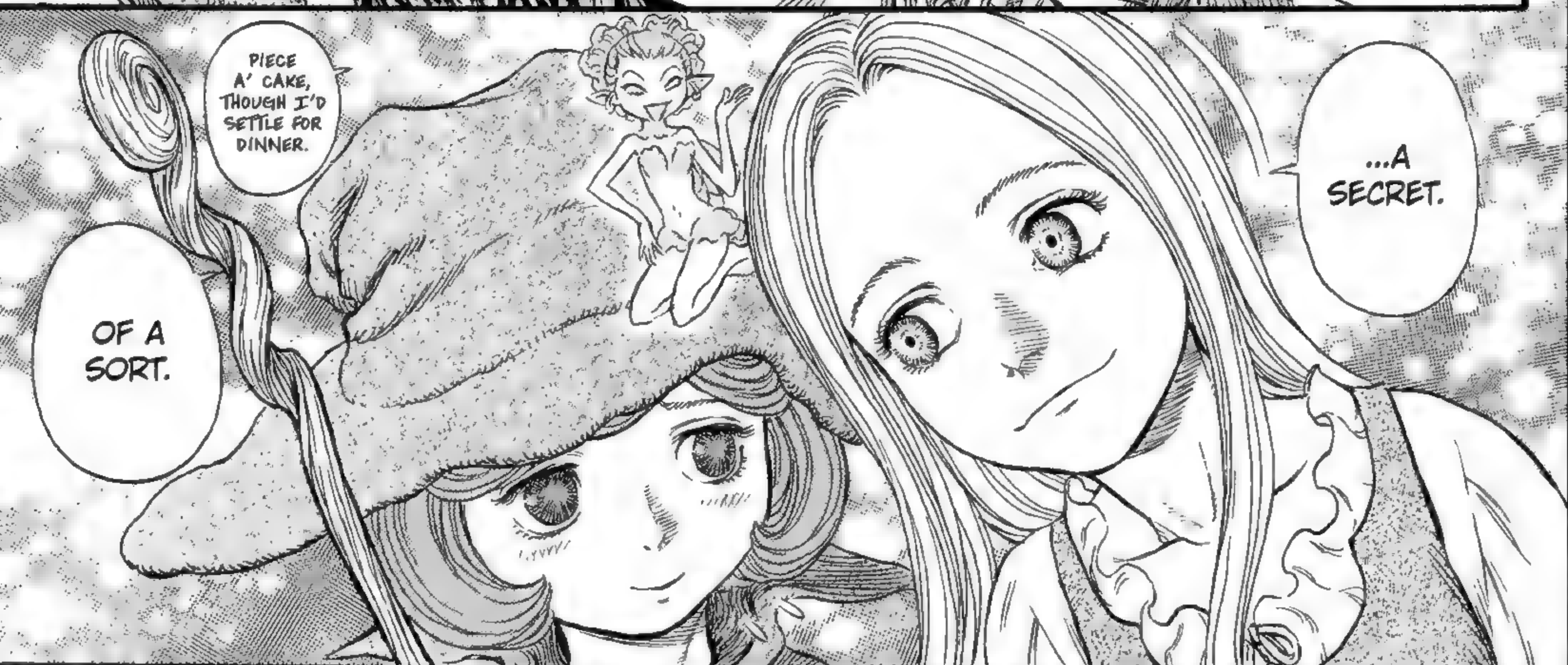
THE
GATE'S
GOING TO
CLOOOOSE.



WHAT
IN THE
WORLD'S
GOING
ON?

THAT
WOULD
BE...

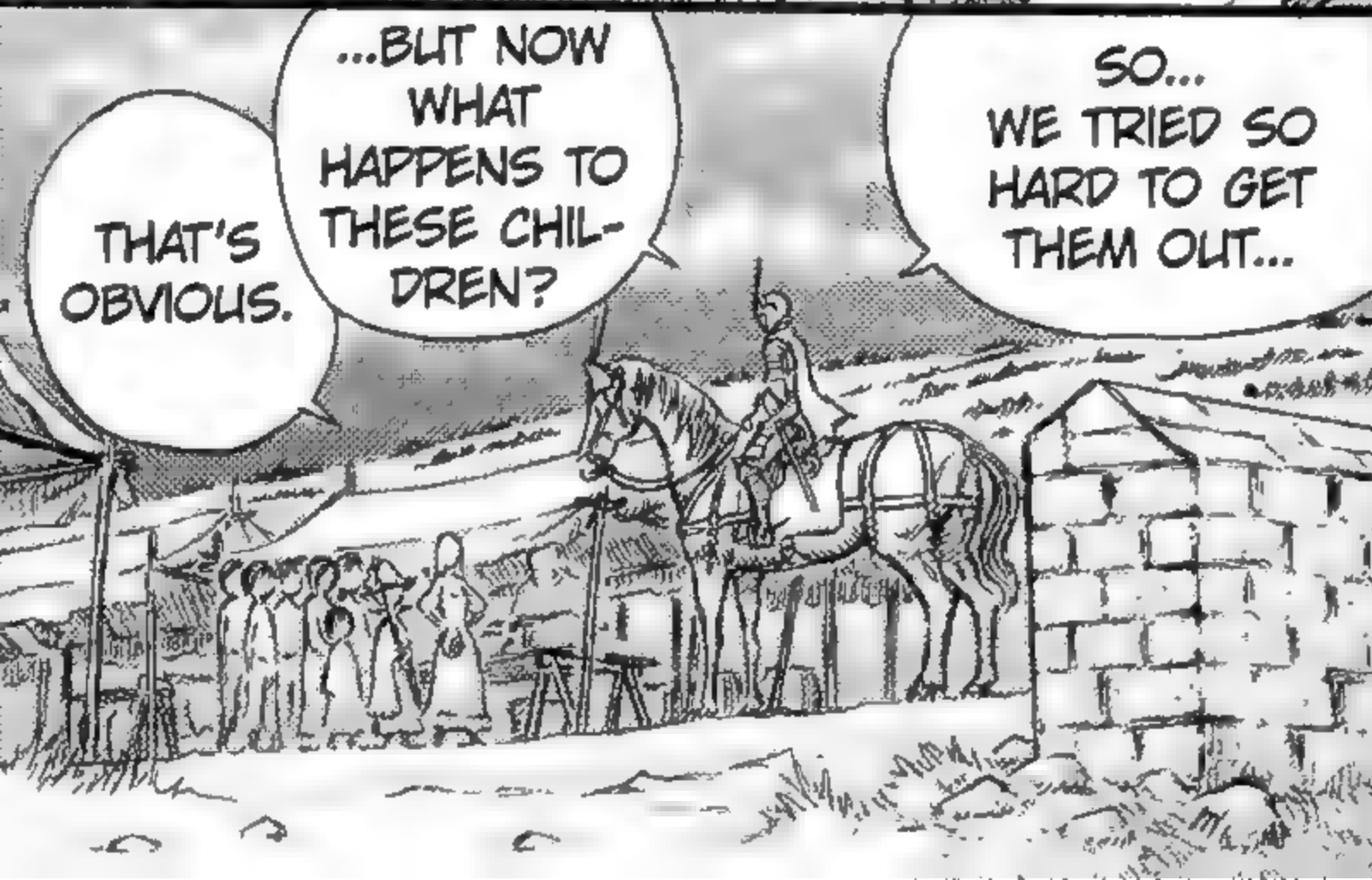
CHILDREN
OR NOT, I
CAN'T BELIEVE
WE MADE IT
OUTSIDE THE
CITY WITH THIS
MANY KUSHAN
AND NO
HASSLE...



PIECE
A' CAKE,
THOUGH I'D
SETTLE FOR
DINNER.

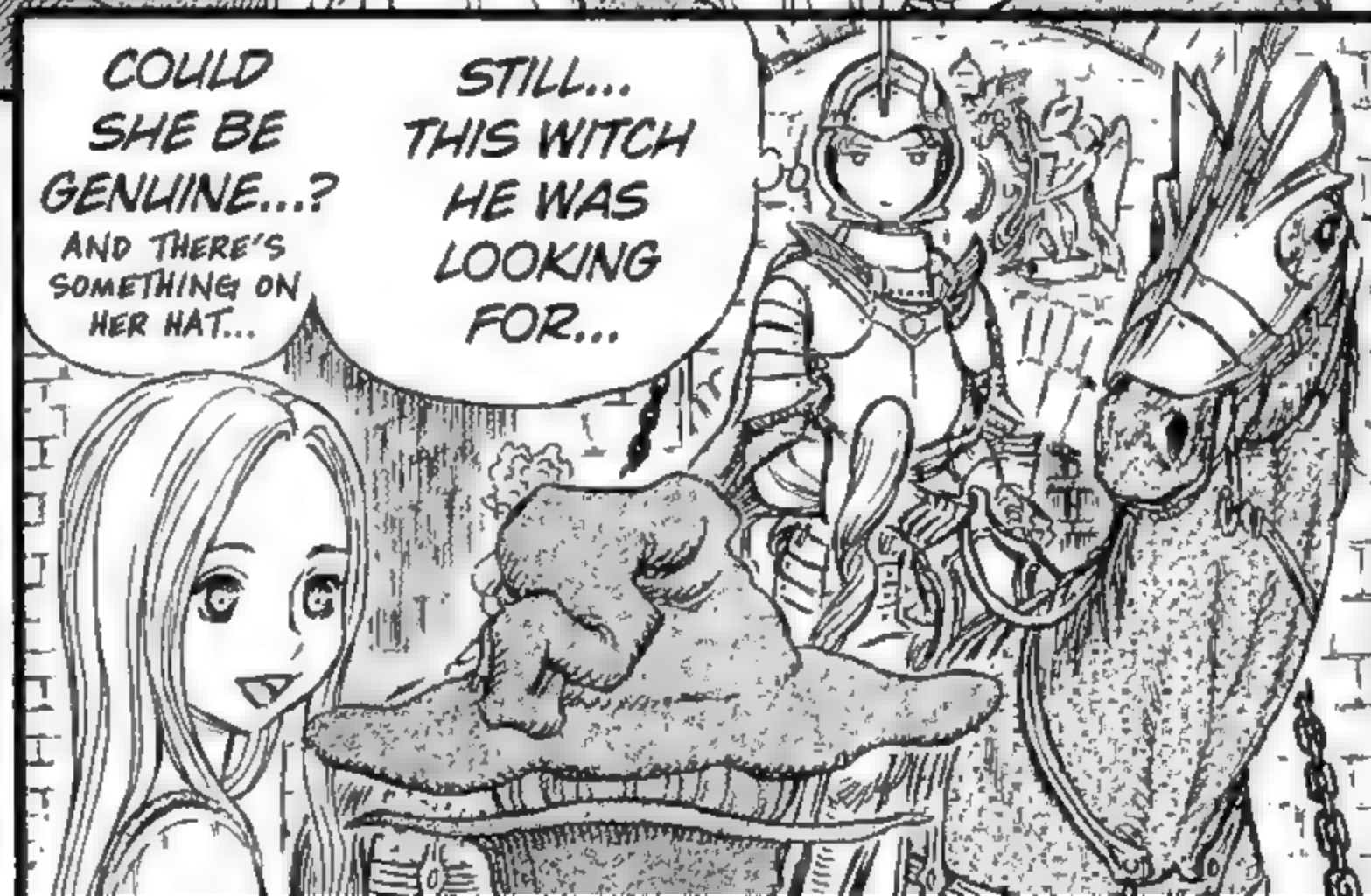
OF A
SORT.

...A
SECRET.



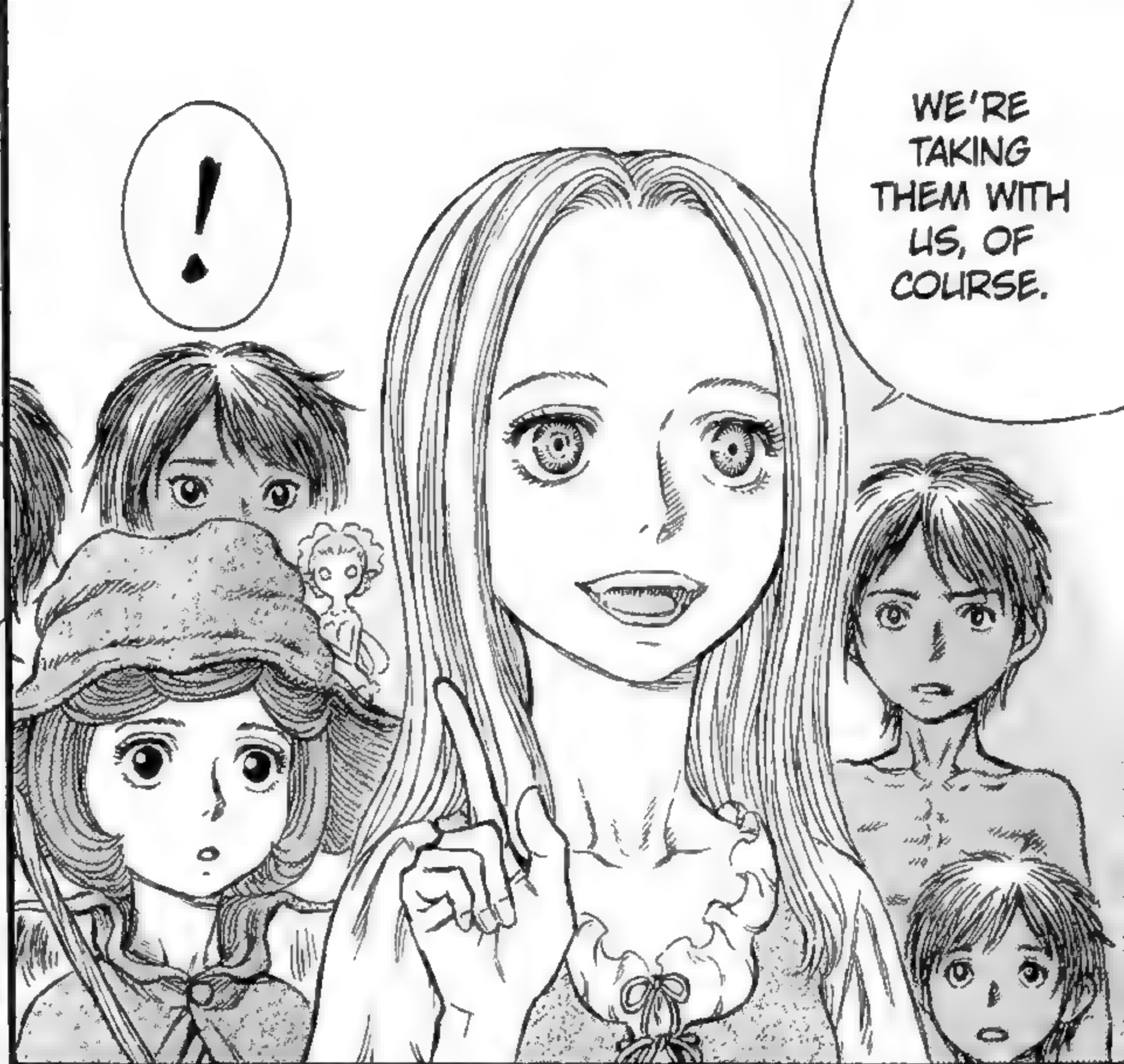
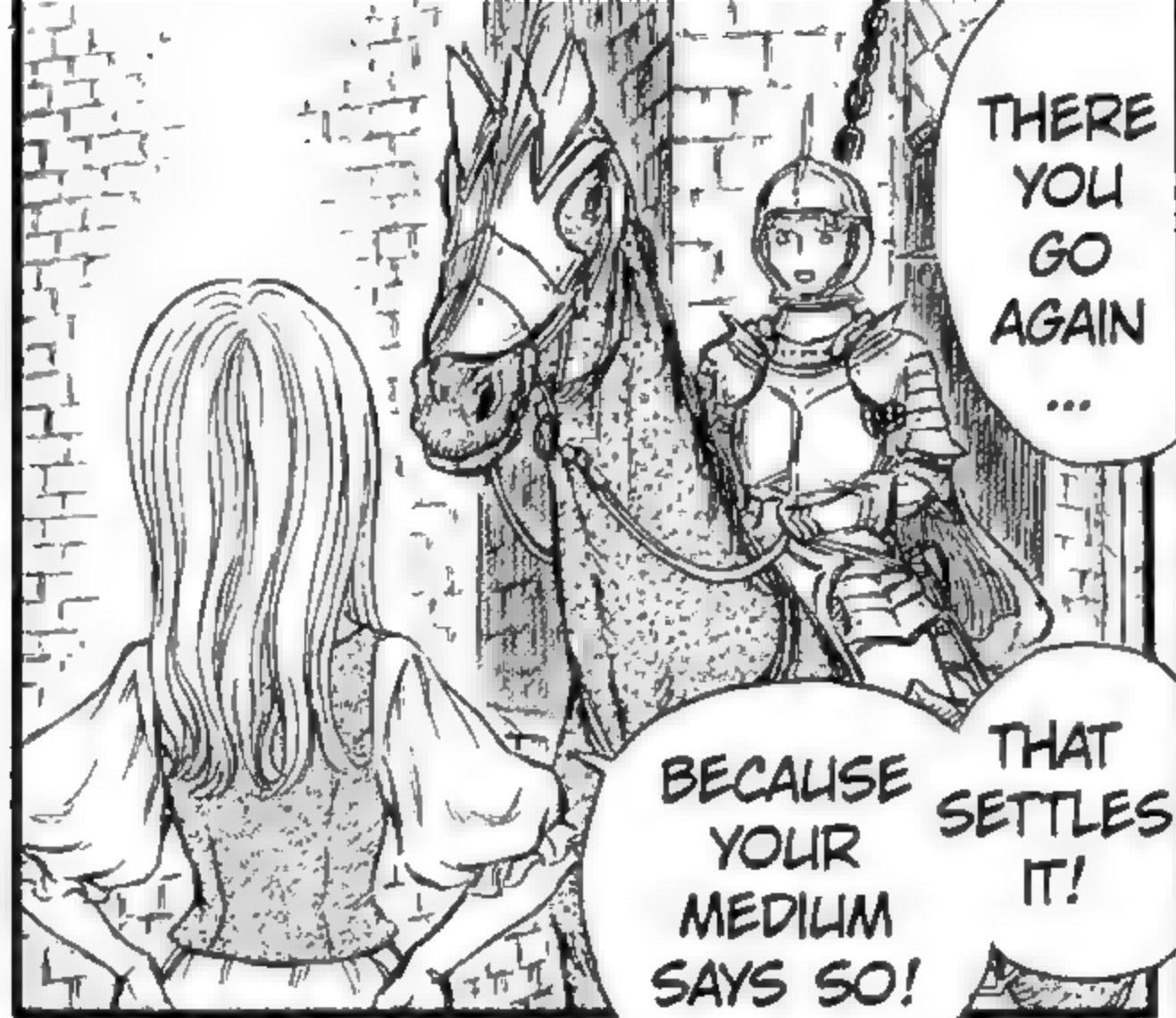
...BUT NOW
WHAT
HAPPENS TO
THESE CHIL-
DREN?

SO...
WE TRIED SO
HARD TO GET
THEM OUT...



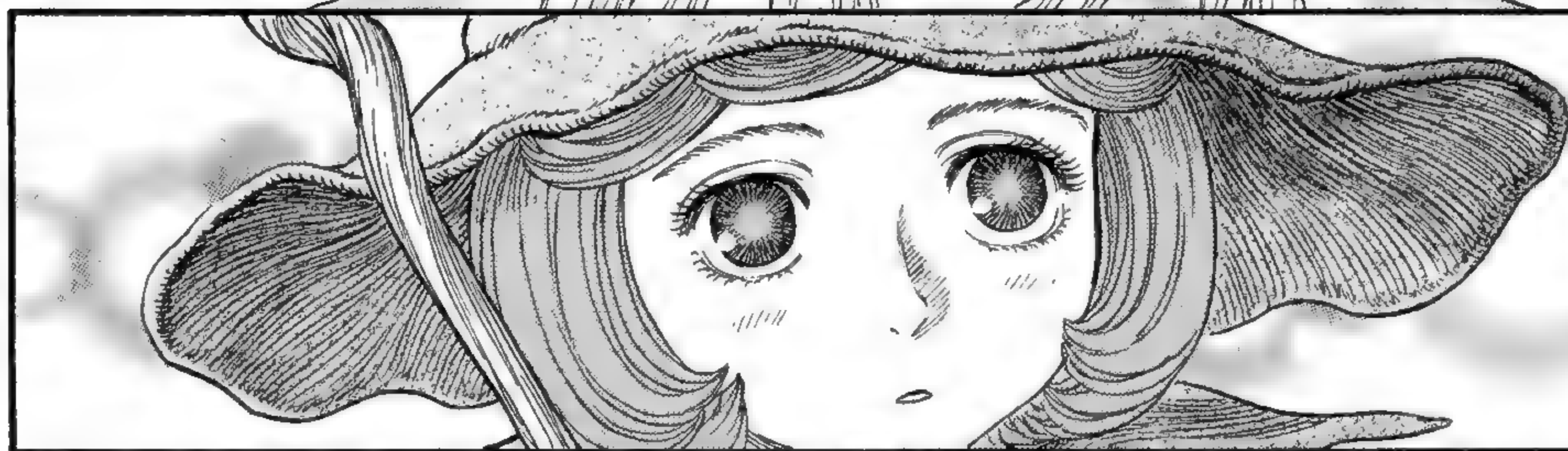
COULD
SHE BE
GENUINE...?
AND THERE'S
SOMETHING ON
HER HAT...

STILL...
THIS WITCH
HE WAS
LOOKING
FOR...



I DON'T WANT TO SMEAR MUD ON A FUN MEMORY.

WELL, IT'S NOT AS IF WE CAN JUST ABANDON THEM.



*FX: HYNN





CAN YOU PROTECT THEM UNARMED?

AW, QUIT BEIN' A GOODY GOODY.



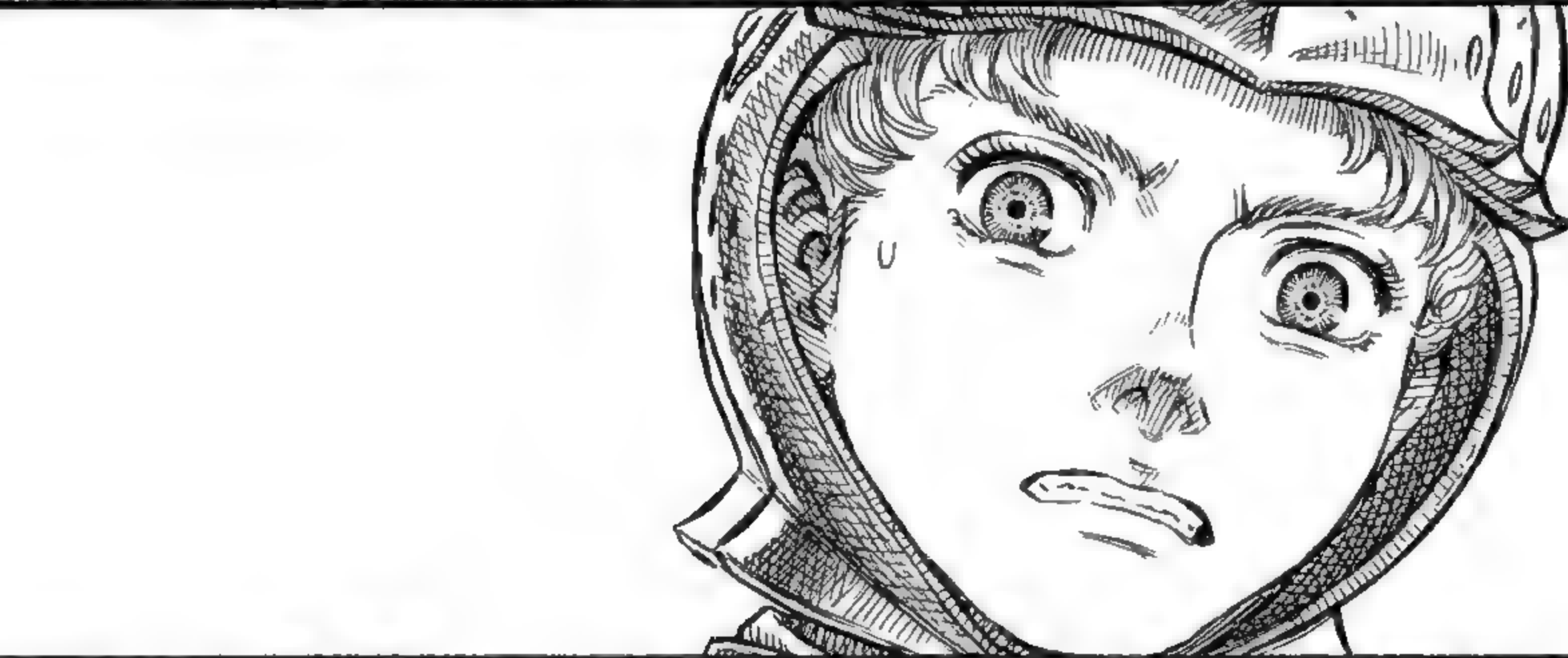
DON'T BE ABSURD!

A STOLEN SWORD ...?!

I FILCHED IT FROM A PIRATE IN THE CONFUSION.

TAKE IT.

*GH
?!



AND YOU! YOU LOOKED AS SHAMEFUL AS AN OVER-TURNED FROG!

LAME! HOW CAN YOU BECOME A KNIGHT THAT WAY?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DROPPED HIS SWORD IN THE WATER!

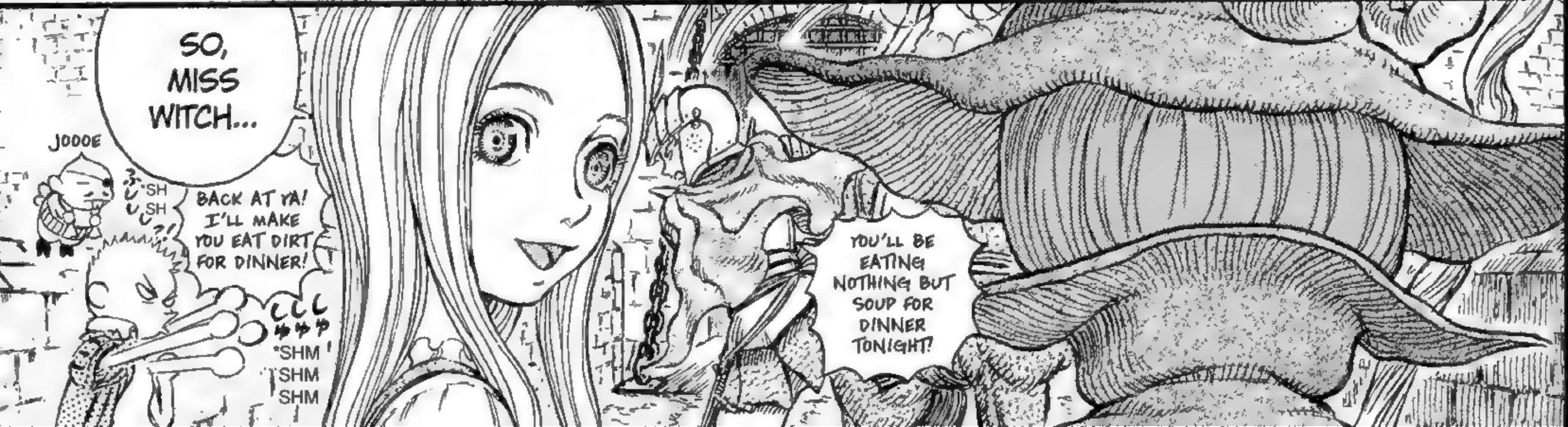
HE'S GOOD AT PROVOKING PEOPLE.

AT THAT, HE IS GIFTED.

A NATURAL.

'TIS THE SOUL OF A WARRIOR.

SO DID YOU! AND YOU LOOKED DRUNK, STUMBLIN' AROUND ON THAT BOAT!



SO, MISS WITCH...

BACK AT YA! I'LL MAKE YOU EAT DIRT FOR DINNER!

YOU'LL BE EATING NOTHING BUT SOUP FOR DINNER TONIGHT!

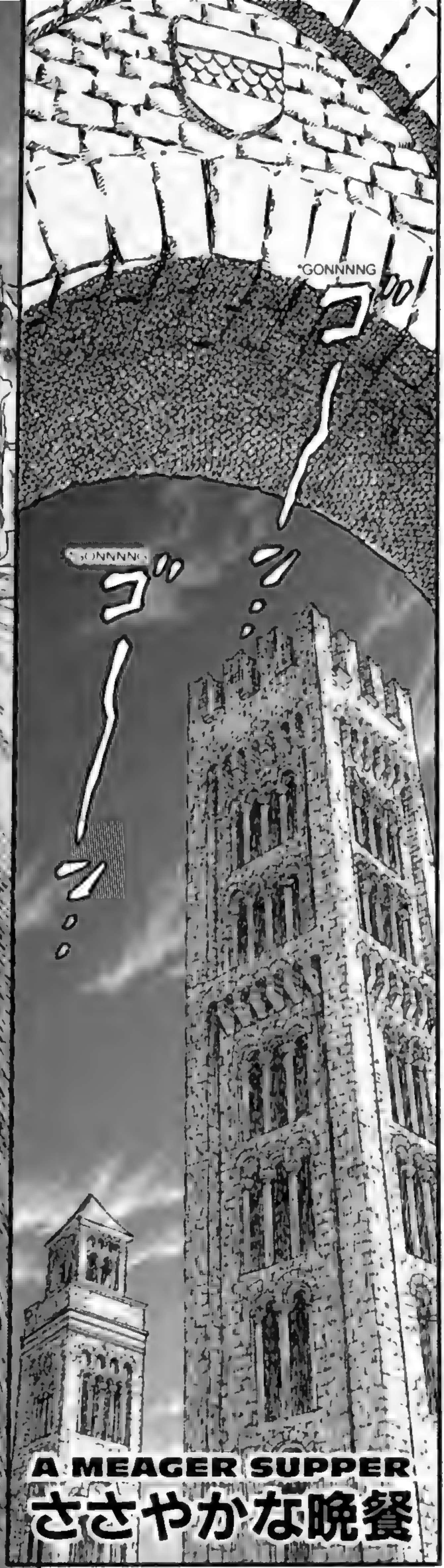


EH...?

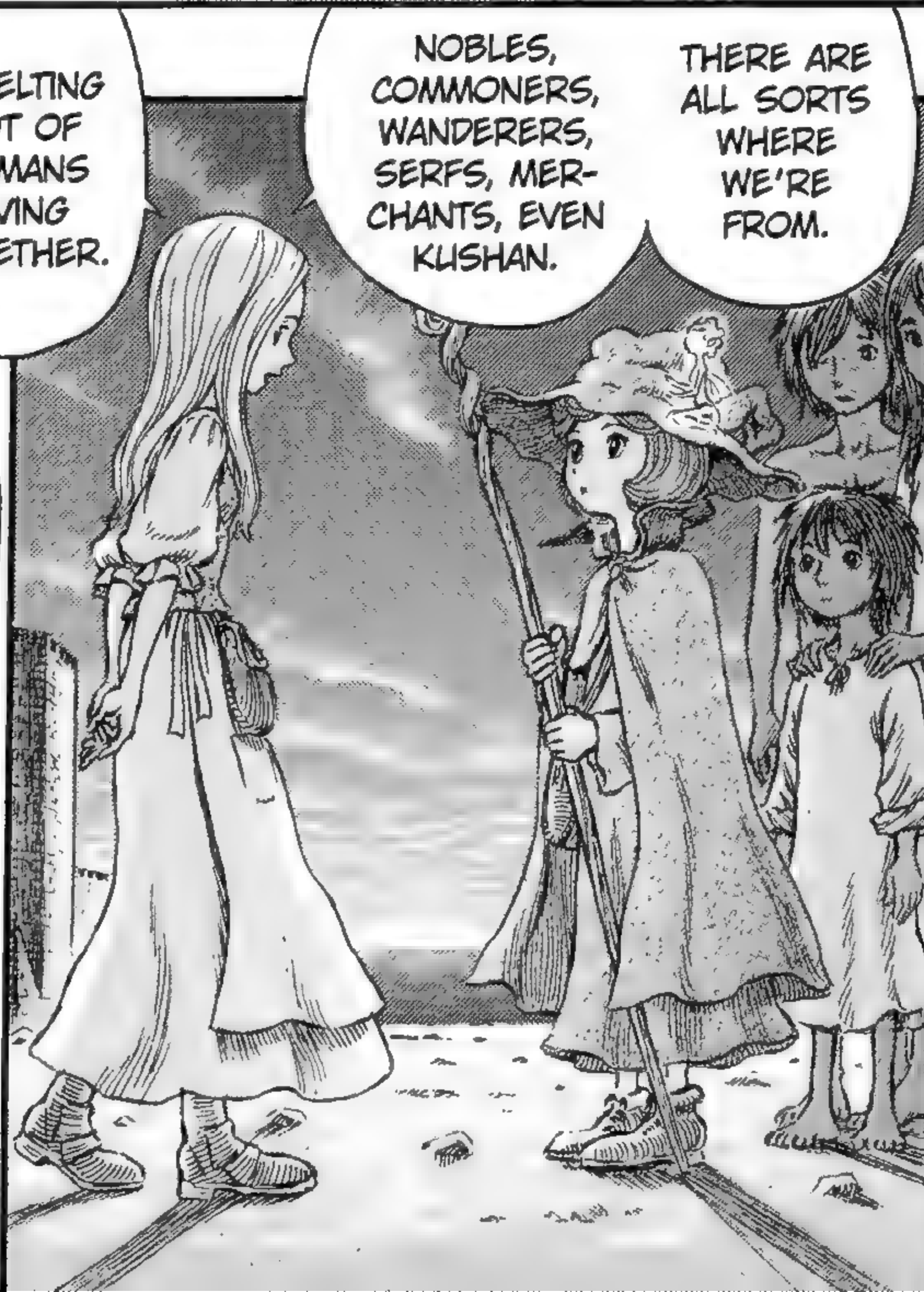
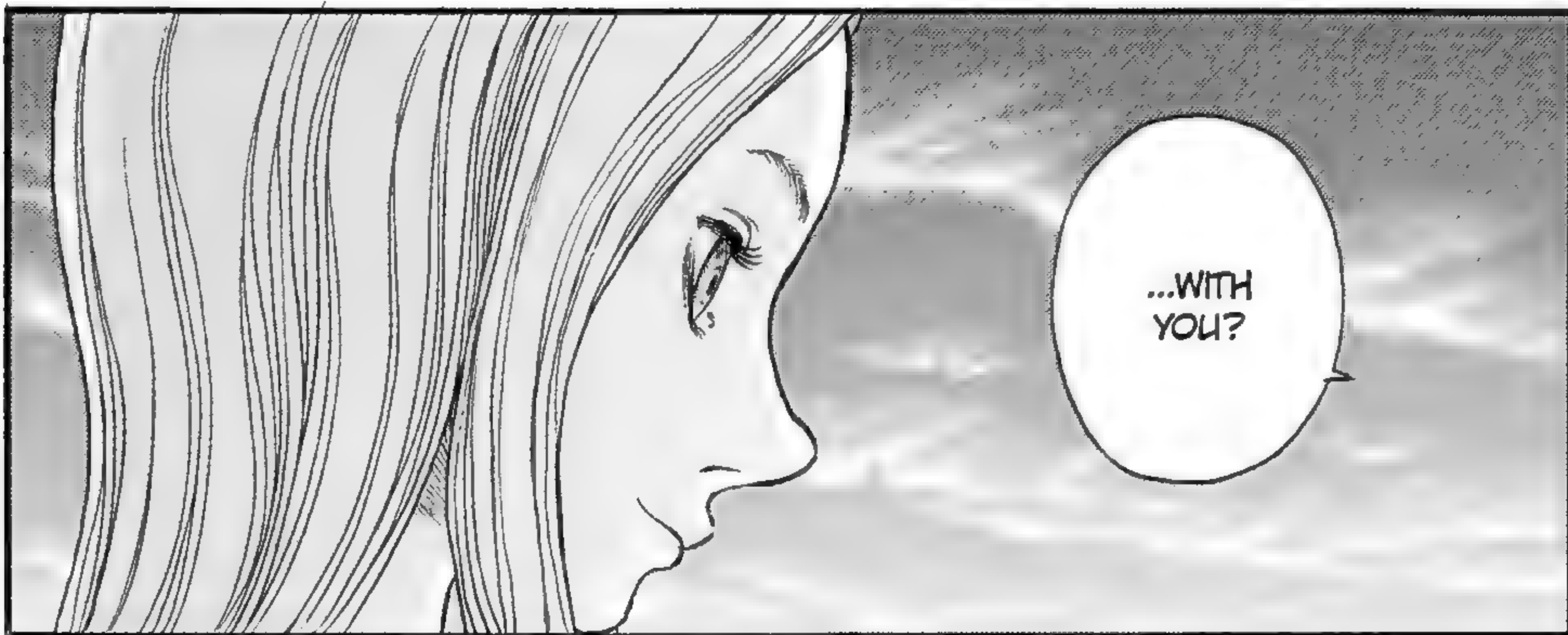
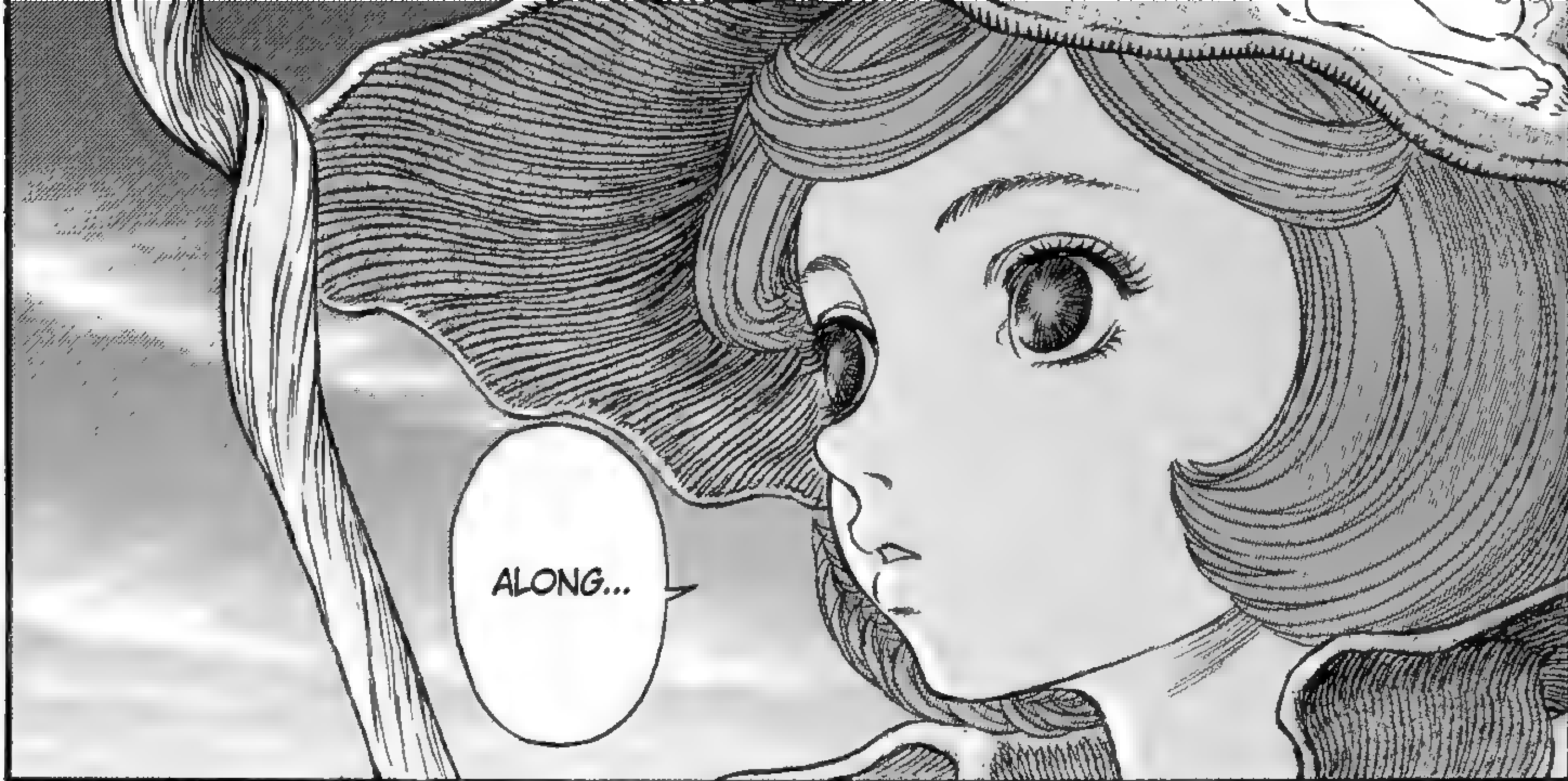
...WHY
NOT COME
ALONG
WITH US?

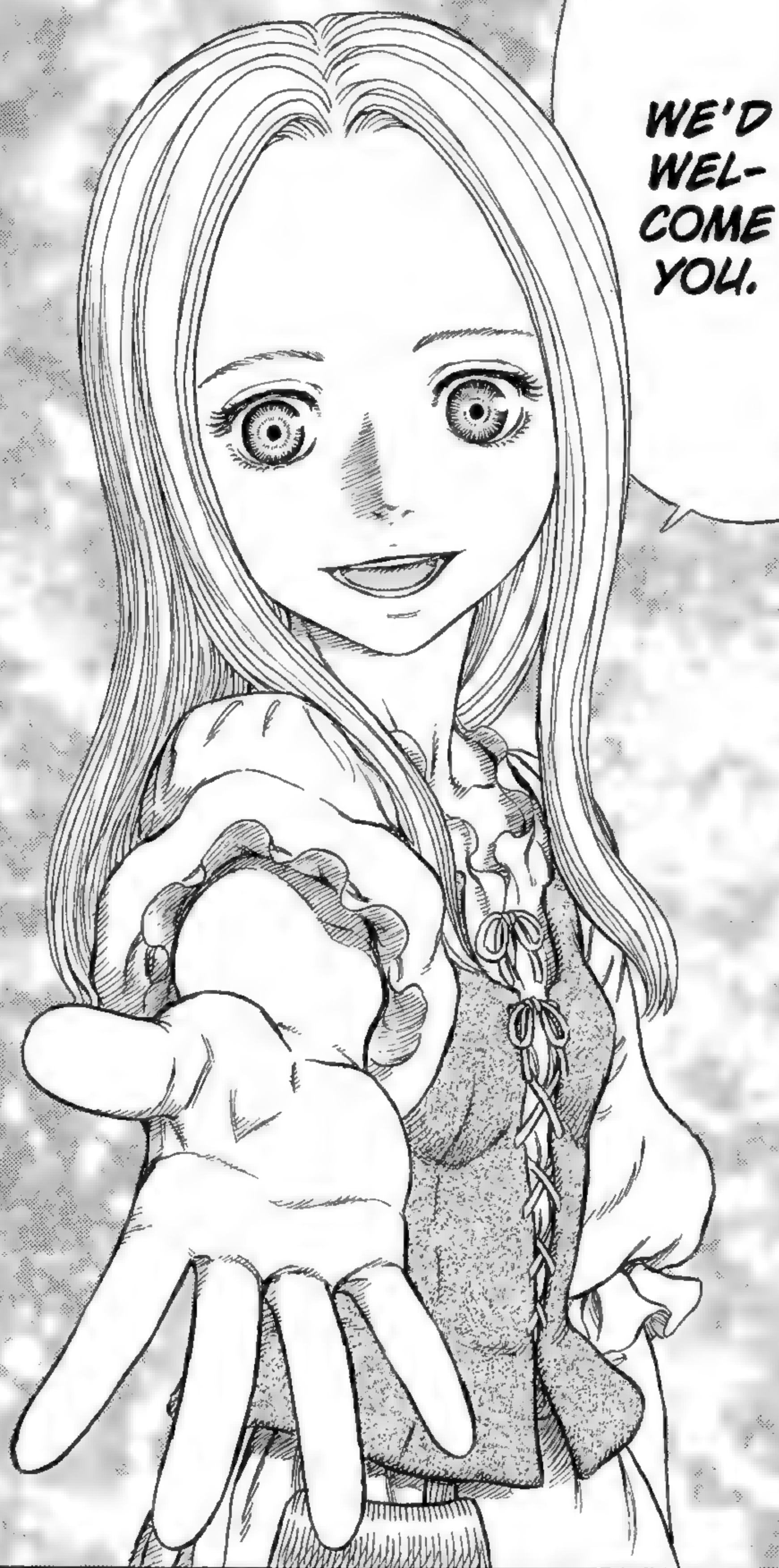
IF
YOU'D
LIKE
TO...



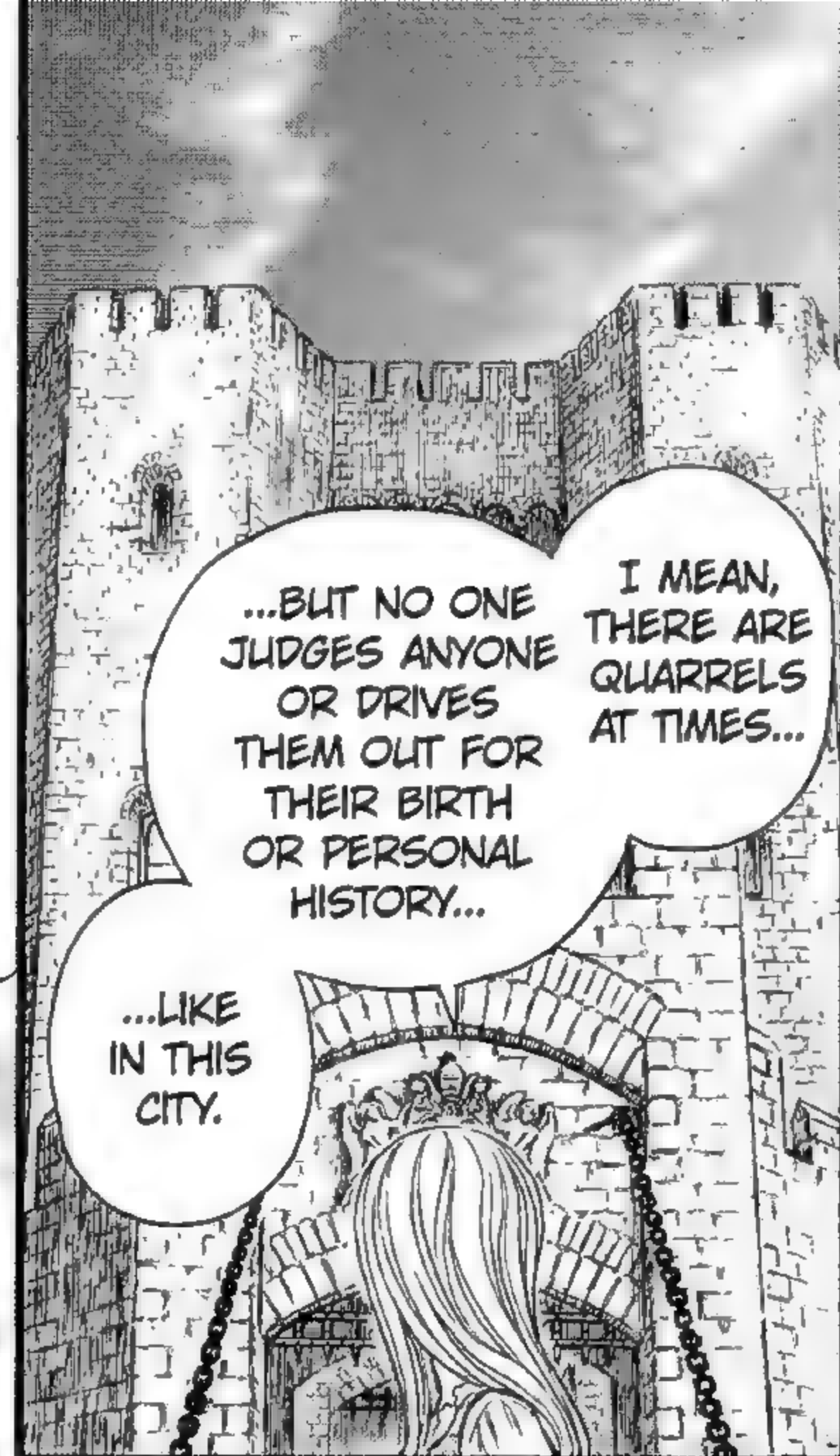


A MEAGER SUPPER
ささやかな晚餐





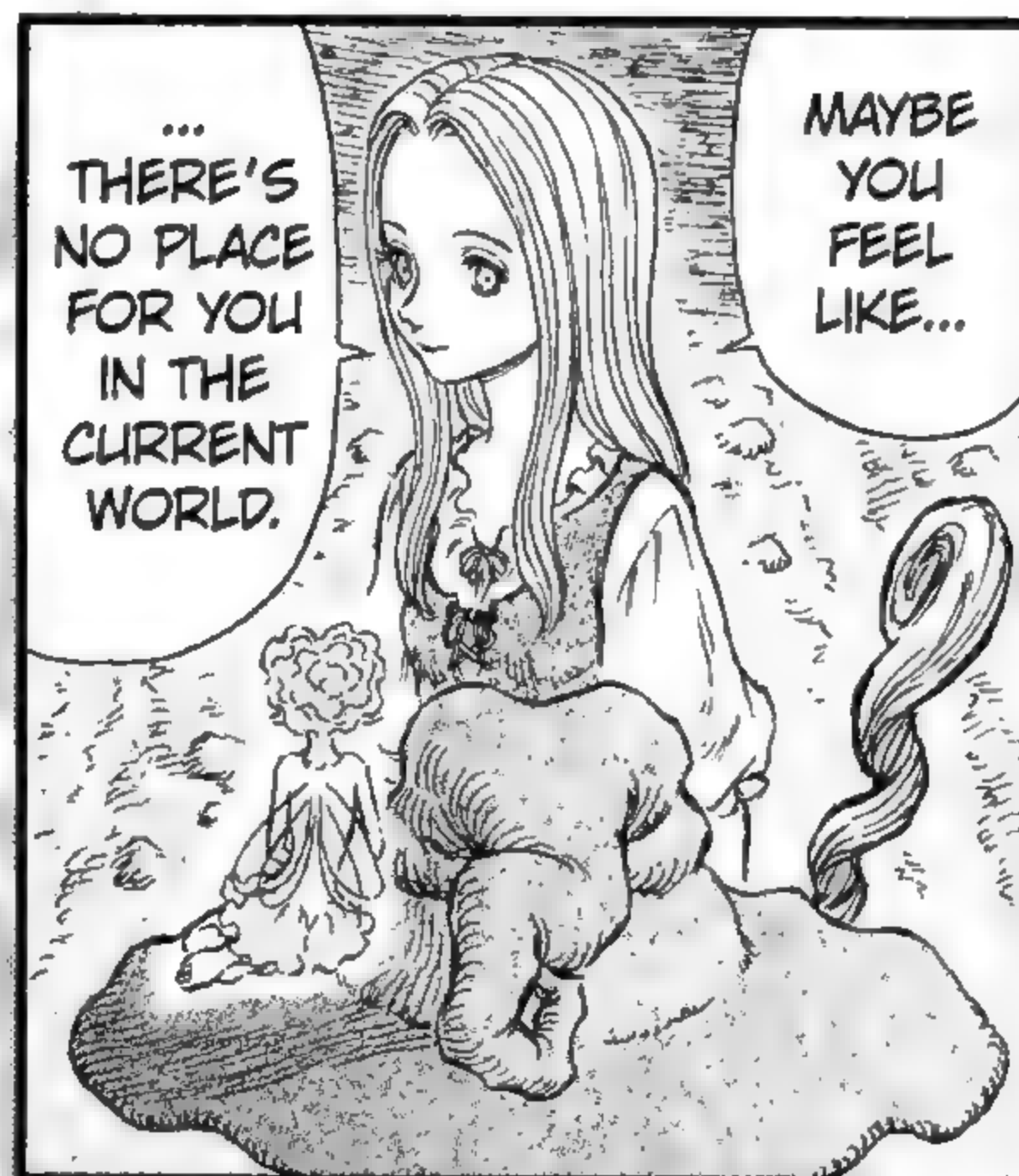
WE'D
WEL-
COME
YOU.



...BUT NO ONE
JUDGES ANYONE
OR DRIVES
THEM OUT FOR
THEIR BIRTH
OR PERSONAL
HISTORY...

I MEAN,
THERE ARE
QUARRELS
AT TIMES...

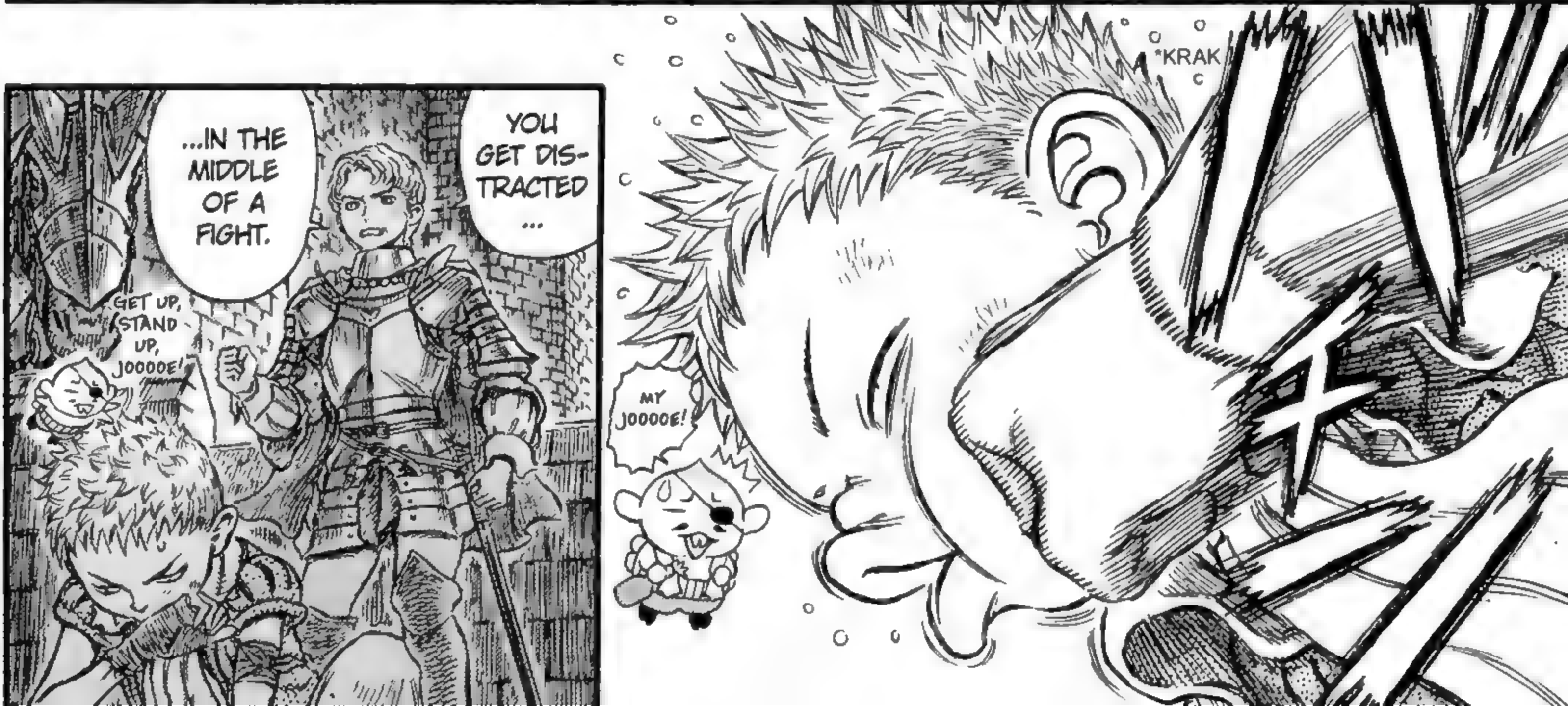
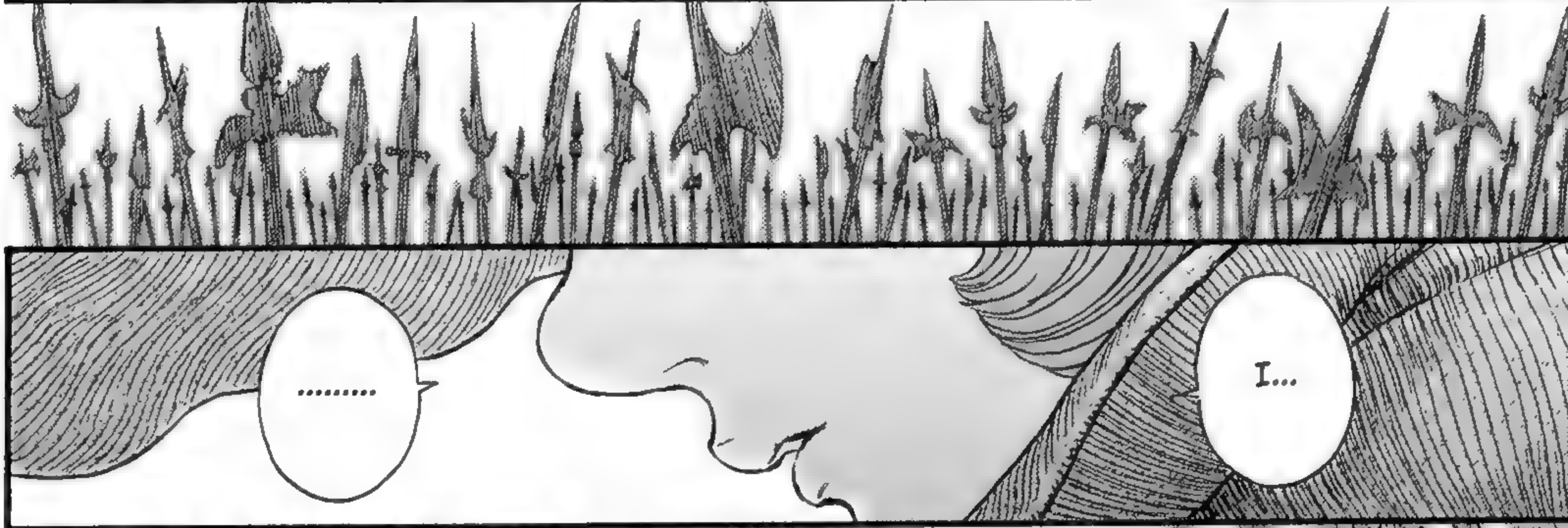
...LIKE
IN THIS
CITY.



...
THERE'S
NO PLACE
FOR YOU
IN THE
CURRENT
WORLD.

MAYBE
YOU
FEEL
LIKE...





THAT'S
ARROGANCE!
BATTLE'S NOT SO
GENEROUS THAT
YOU CAN HELP
YOUR FRIEND'S
PREDICAMENT
THAT WAY.

IT WAS THE
SAME WAY EARLIER!
YOU FEARED TO BE
THE ONE TO TAKE
YOUR ENEMY'S LIFE
WHEN HIS SWORD
WAS DRAWN!

**YOU'RE
NOT
QUALIFIED
TO BE A
SWORDS-
MAN!!**

.....!!

ISIDRO...

NOBODY
ASKED
YOU TO!

I SAVED
YOU FIRST!

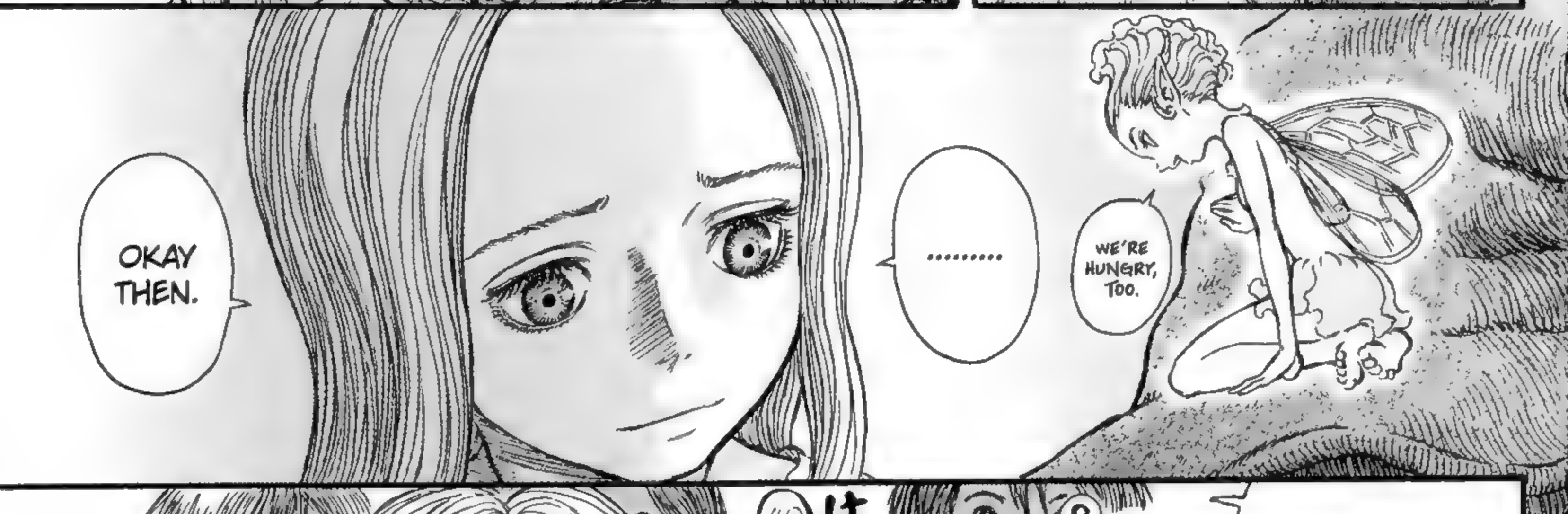
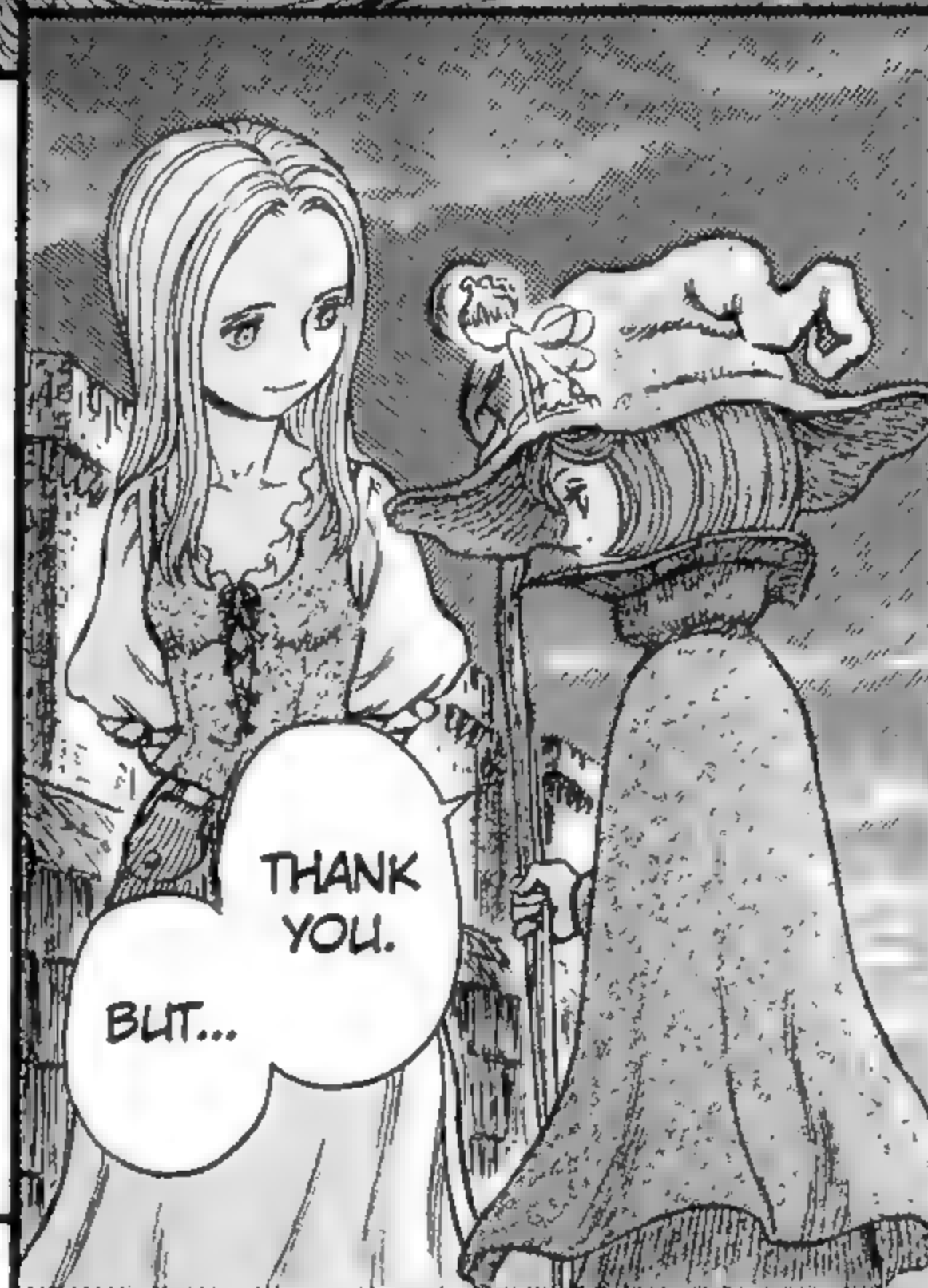
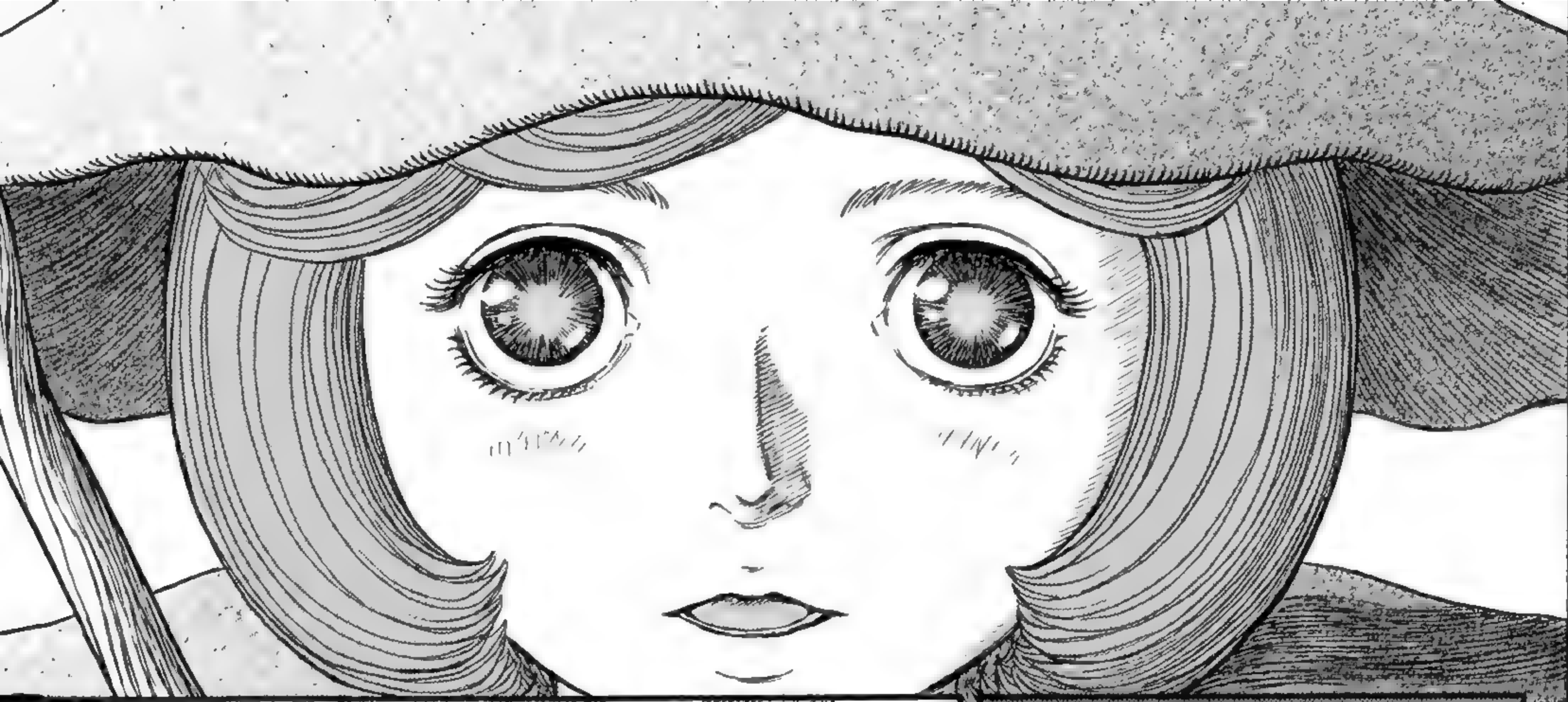
VERY
HUMAN
WORLD

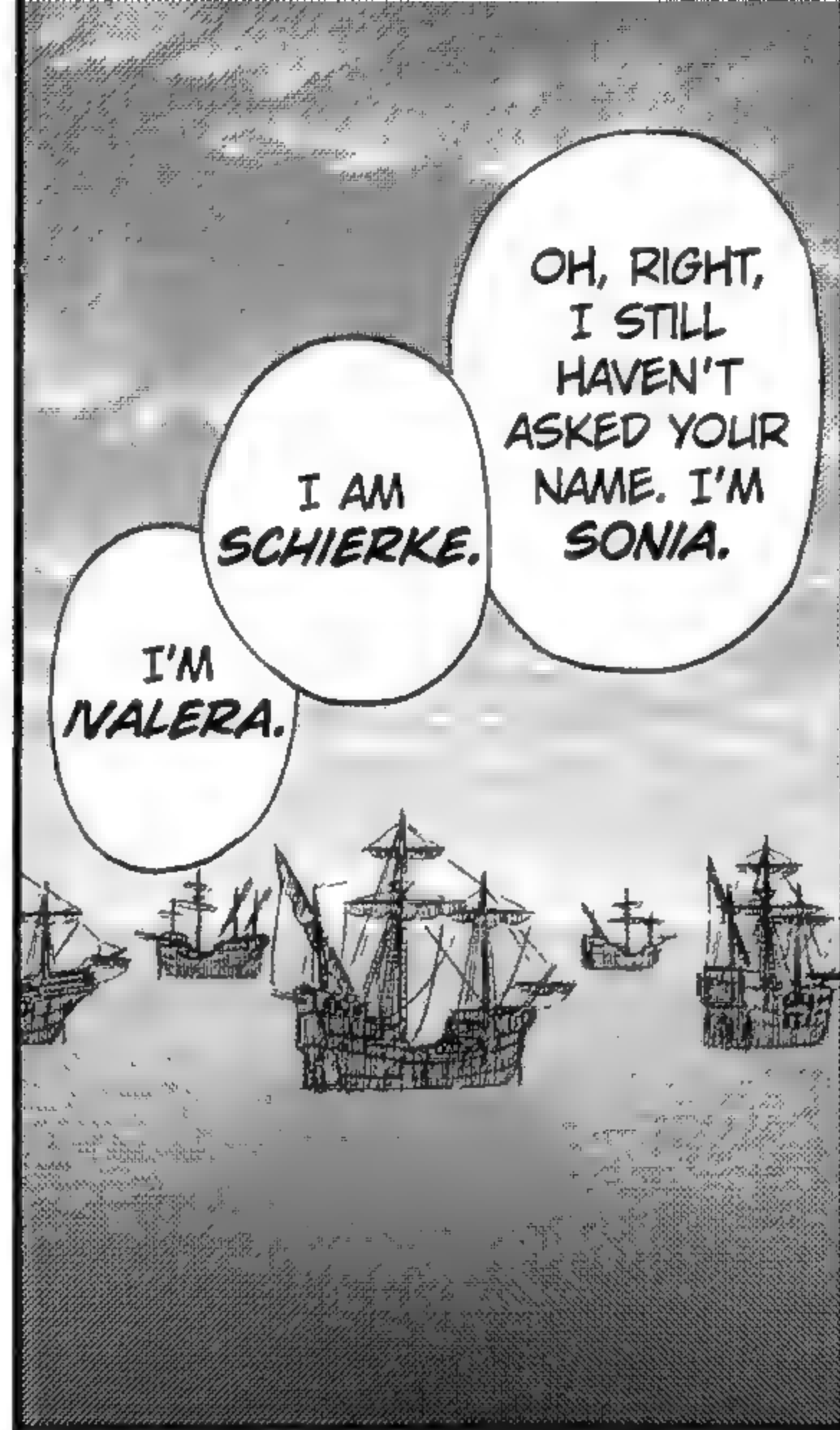
'ZAT
WHAT
YOU SAY,
WHEN
I SAVED
YOU?!

DONNING

WHMP





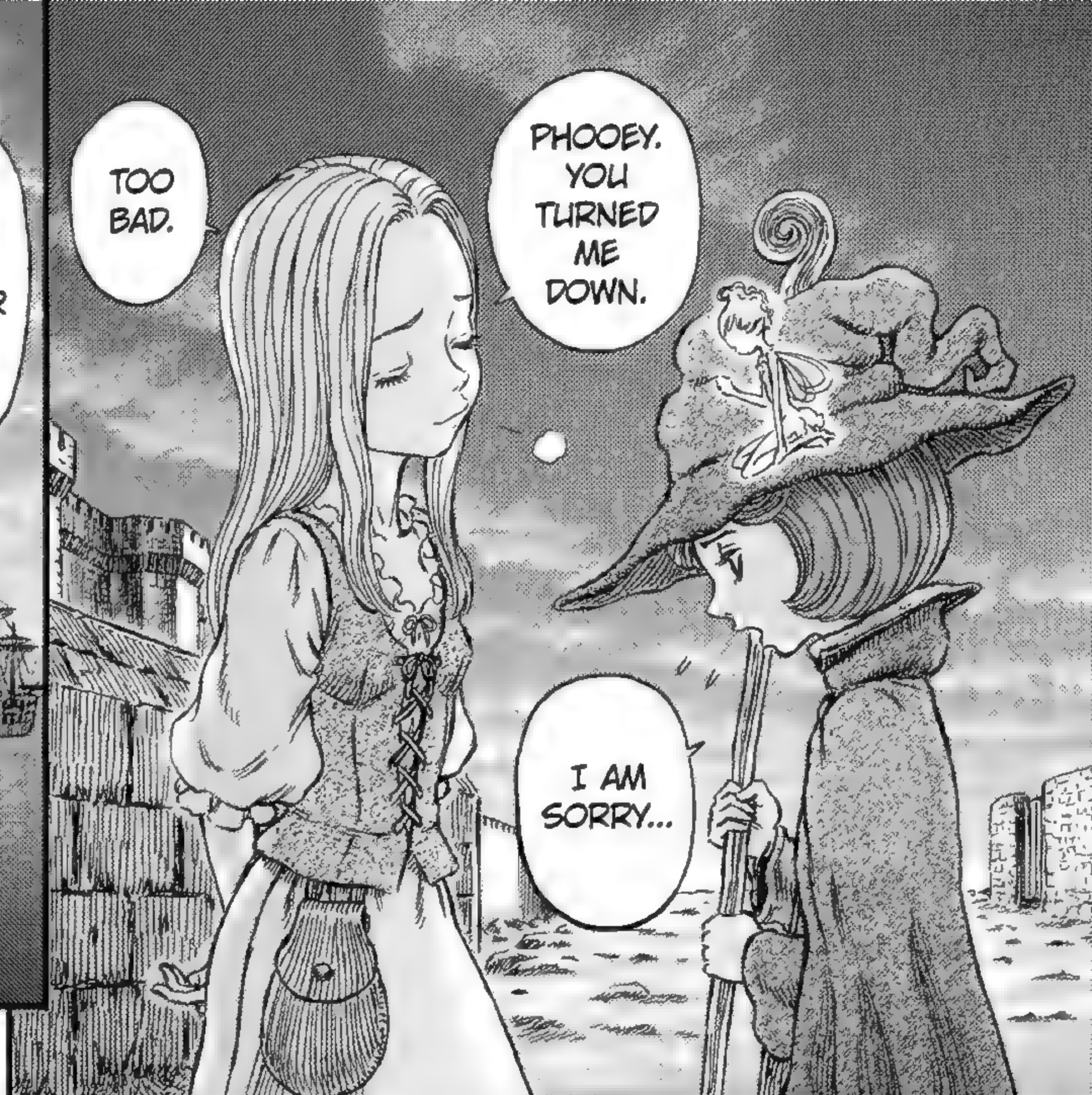


I'M
VALERA.

I AM
SCHIERKE.

OH, RIGHT,
I STILL
HAVEN'T
ASKED YOUR
NAME. I'M
SONIA.

TOO
BAD.



PHOOEY.
YOU
TURNED
ME
DOWN.

I AM
SORRY...

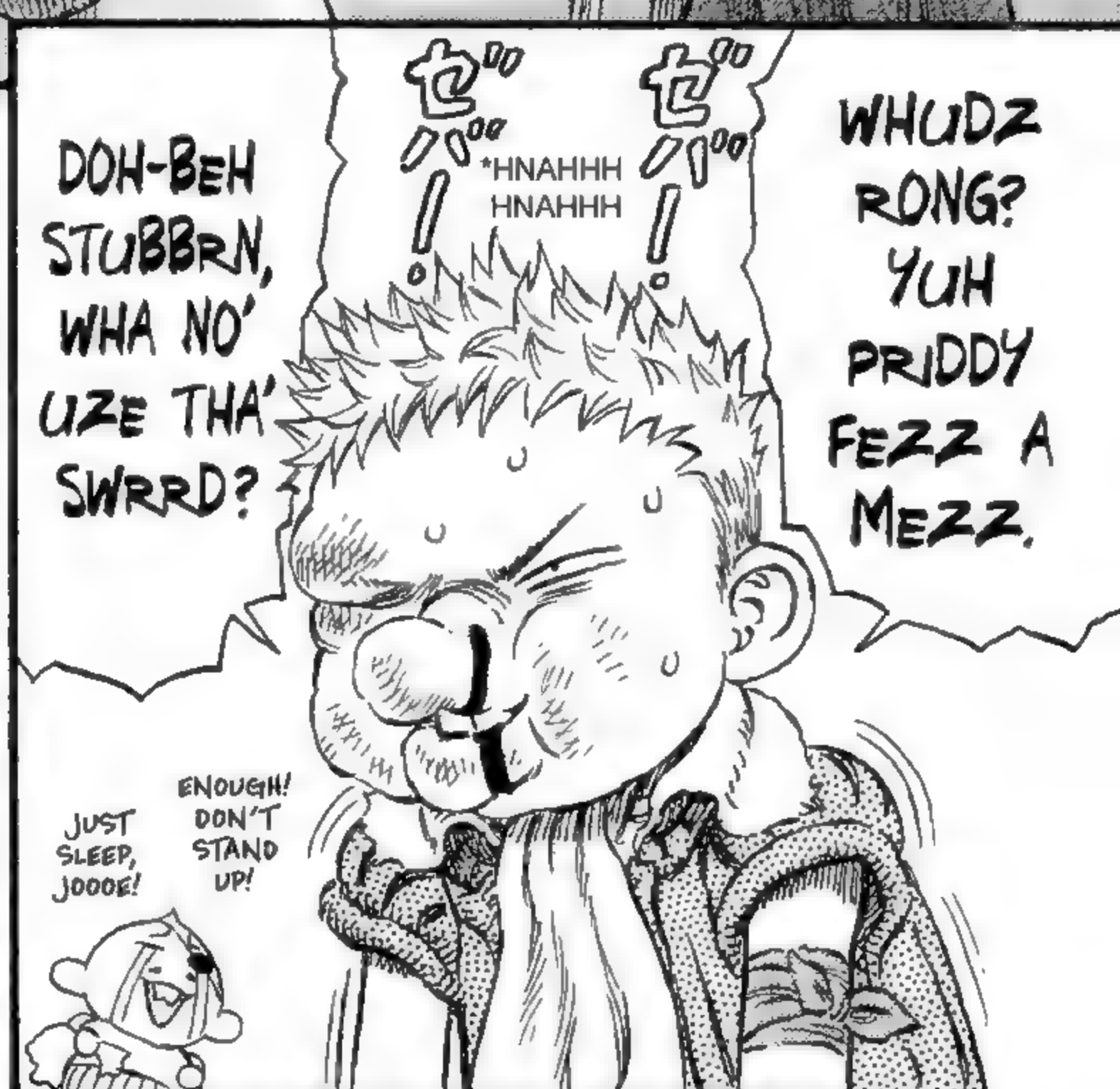


GO AHEAD,
DRAW A
SWORD OR
A KNIFE.
I'LL TAKE YOU
BAREHANDED.

I CAN'T
TELL
YOU
FROM A
MASHED
MEAT
BLIN.

*BLFF

FIGHT!



DOH-BEH
STUBBRN,
WHA NO'
UZE THA'
SWRRD?

WHUDZ
RONG?
YUH
PRIDDY
FEZZ A
MEZZ.

*HNAHHH
HNAHHH

JUST
SLEEP,
JOOKE!

ENOUGH!
DON'T
STAND
UP!



YOU
TOO,
ISIDRO.

IF YOU PLAY
TOO LONG,
I'LL LEAVE
YOU BEHIND,
MULE.

SPEAK
HUMAN,
MOUND
FACE!!

OH YIH?!
LOOG LYGE YUH
WON' GE' I' 'TUL
AH BREAG A'
YUH BAG TEED!

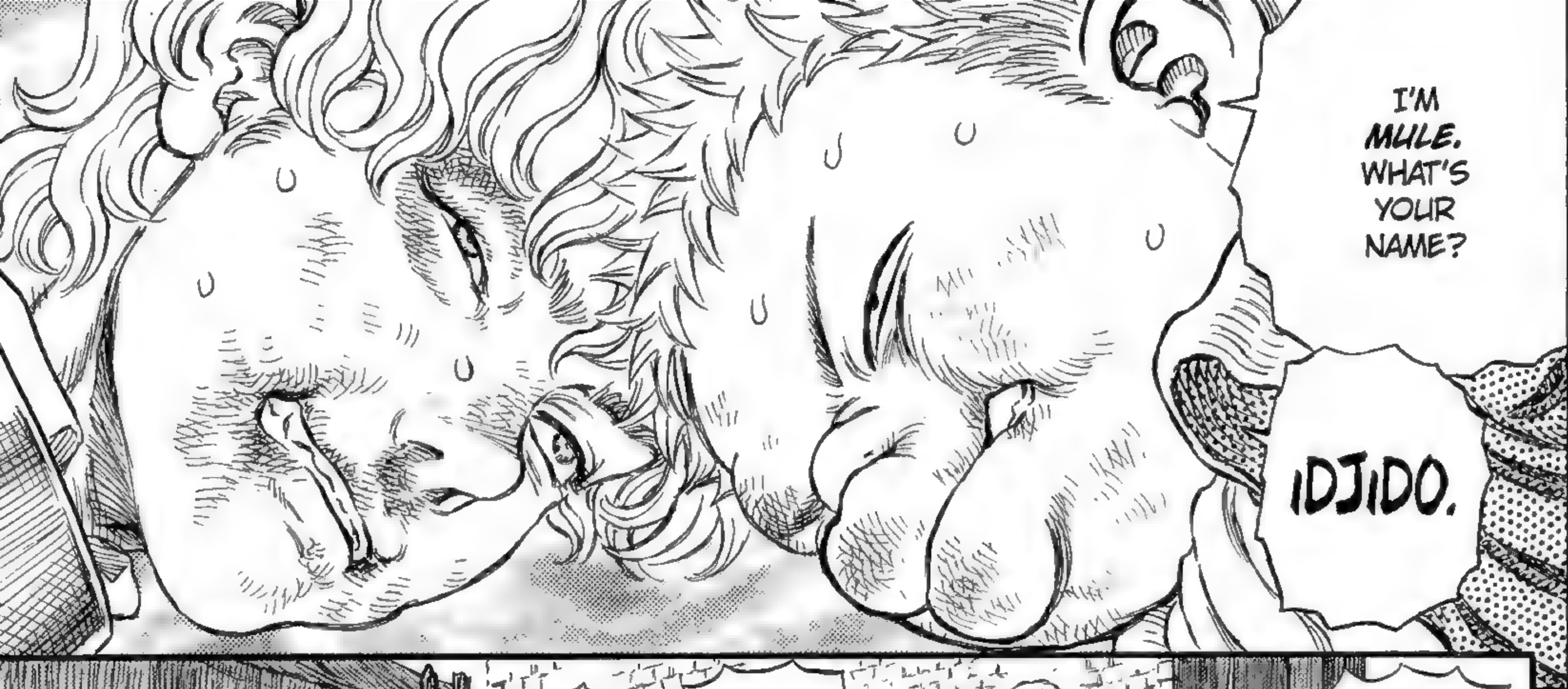
*WHUNK

*BOK

*KRNC

*CHIPS

*KRNC



I'M
MULE.
WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME?

IDJIDO.



IDJIDO!!

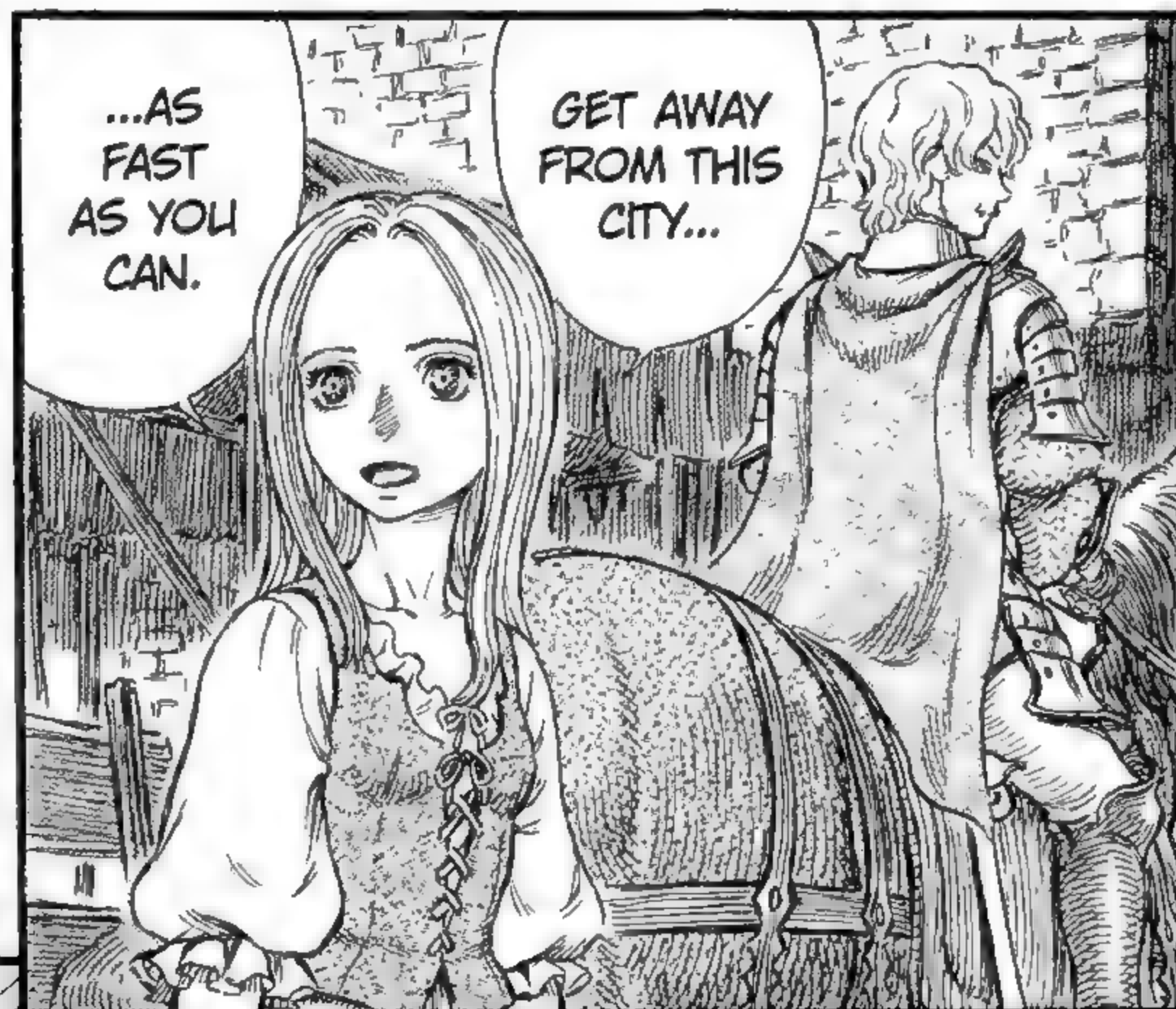
I'LL
REMEMBER
THAT NAME,
IDJIDO!

SCHIERKE.

*FX: BOING BOING

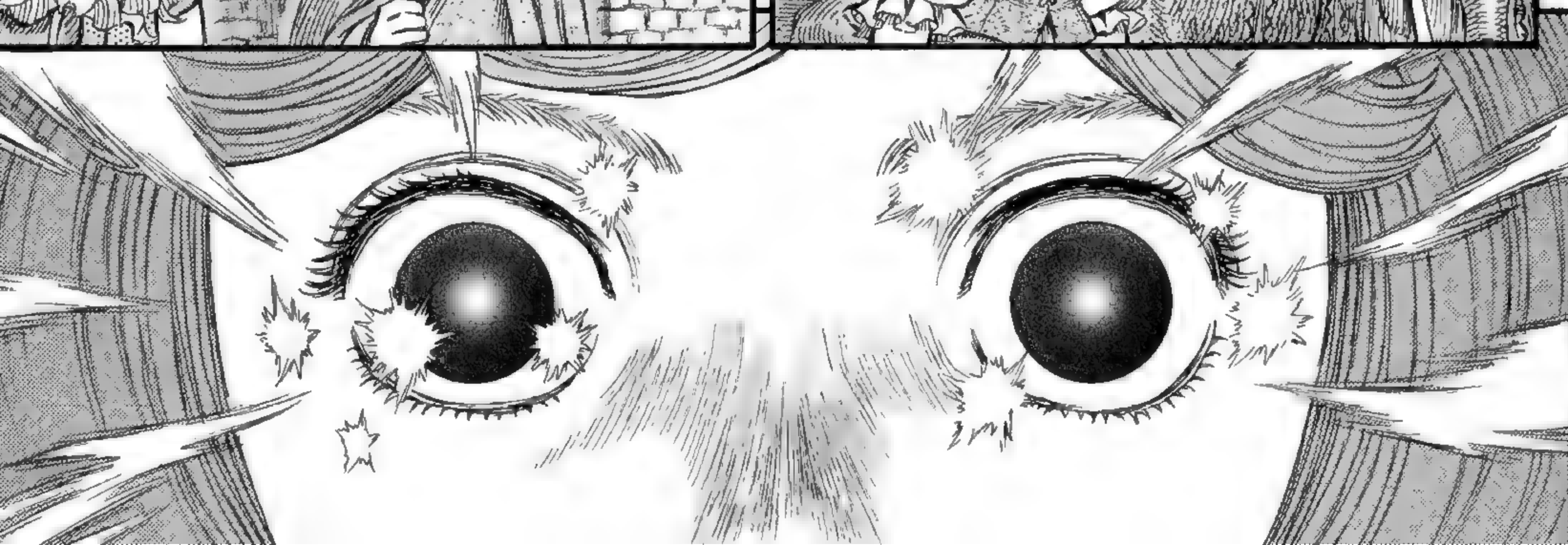


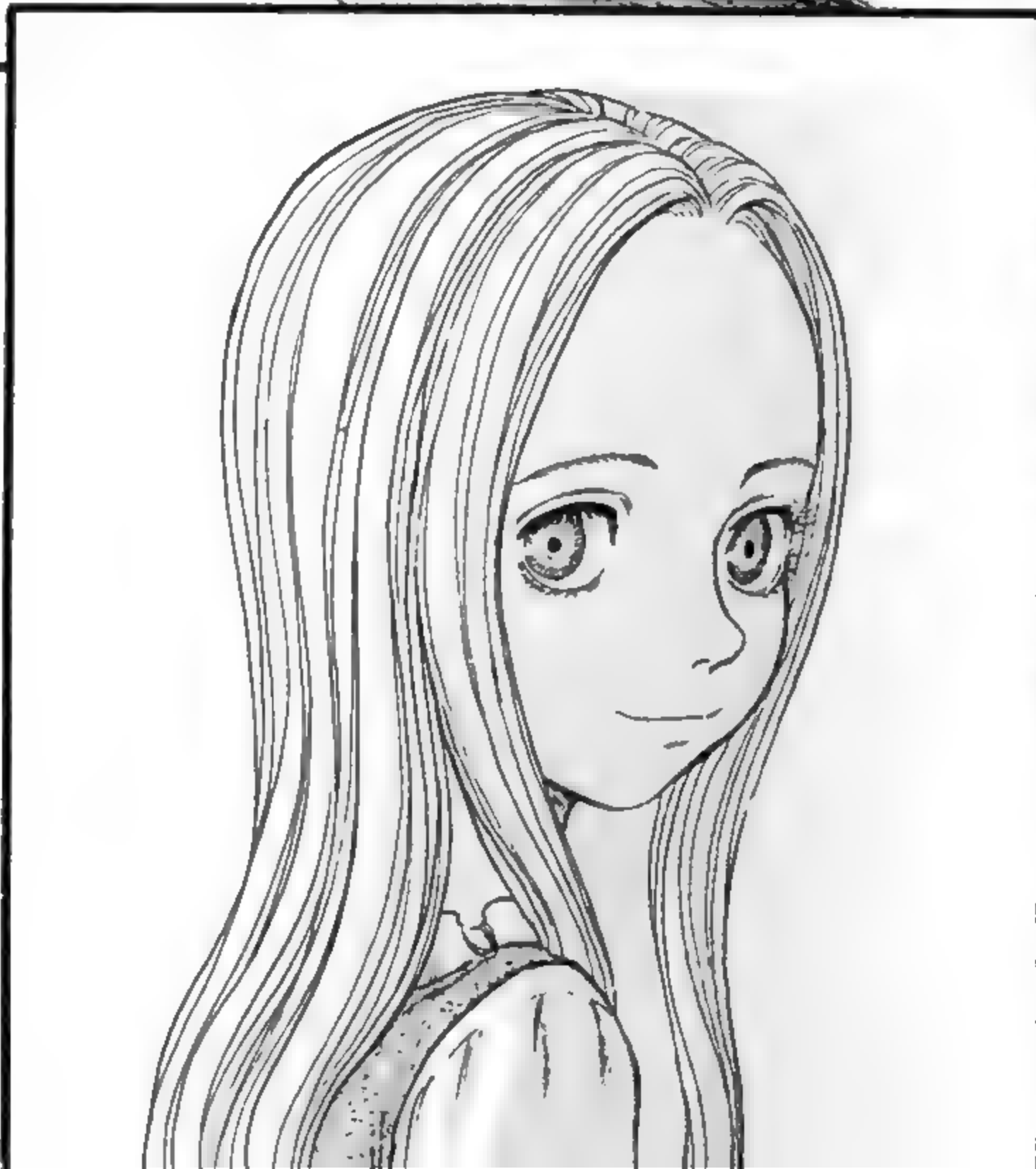
HUH
...?



...AS
FAST
AS YOU
CAN.

GET AWAY
FROM THIS
CITY...





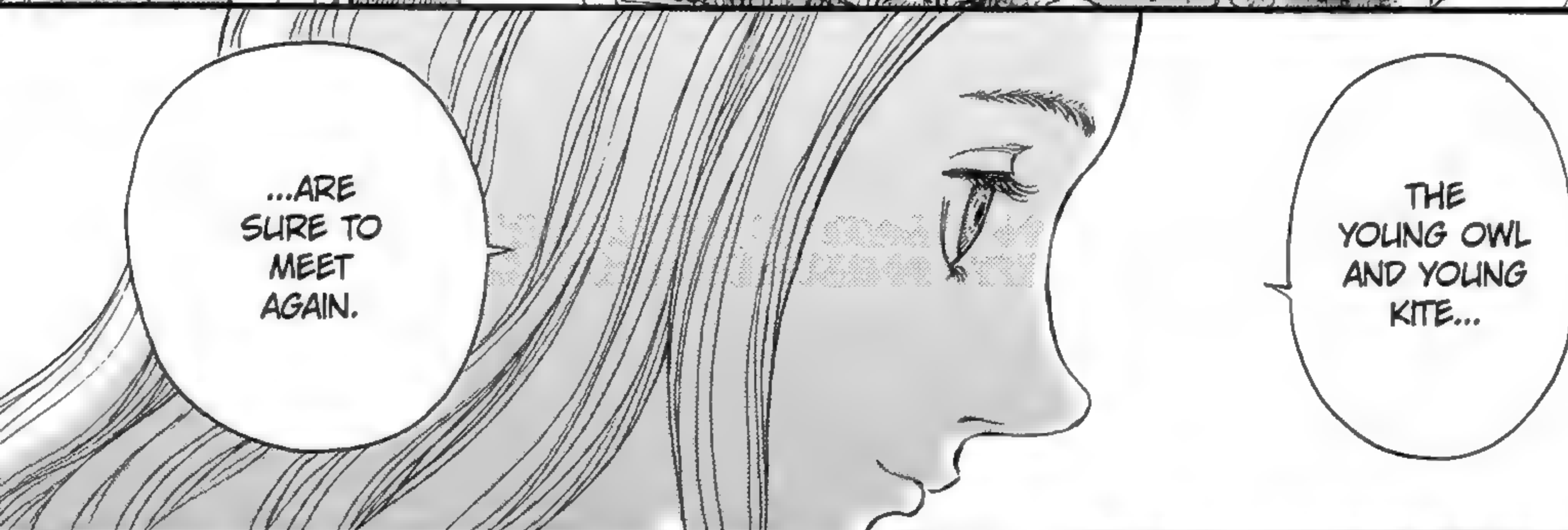


UNTIL
WE MEET
AGAIN,
OWL OF
THE
FOREST.



AGAIN...?
THIS ISN'T
GOODBYE?

HMHM...



...ARE
SURE TO
MEET
AGAIN.

THE
YOUNG OWL
AND YOUNG
KITE...

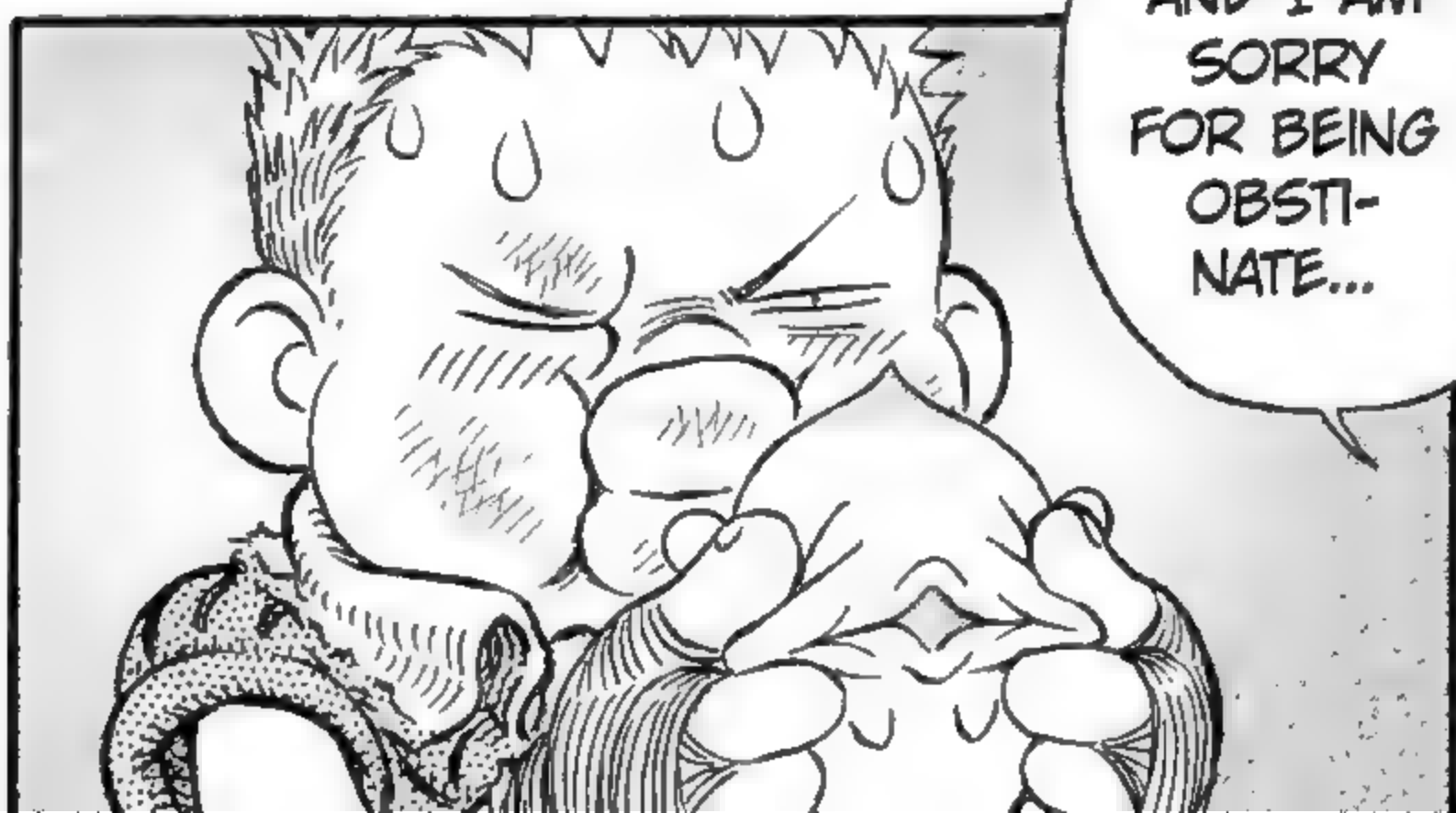
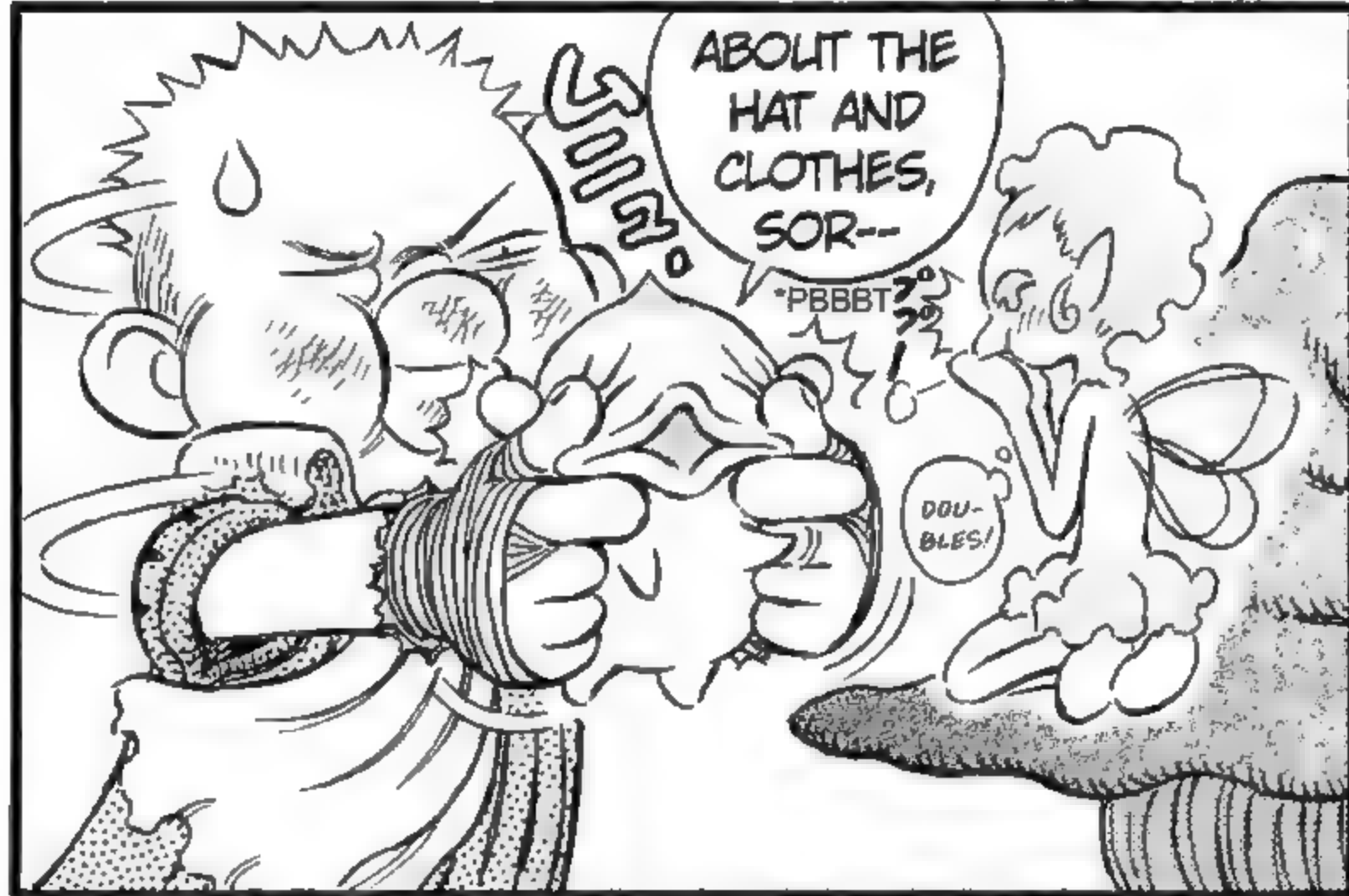


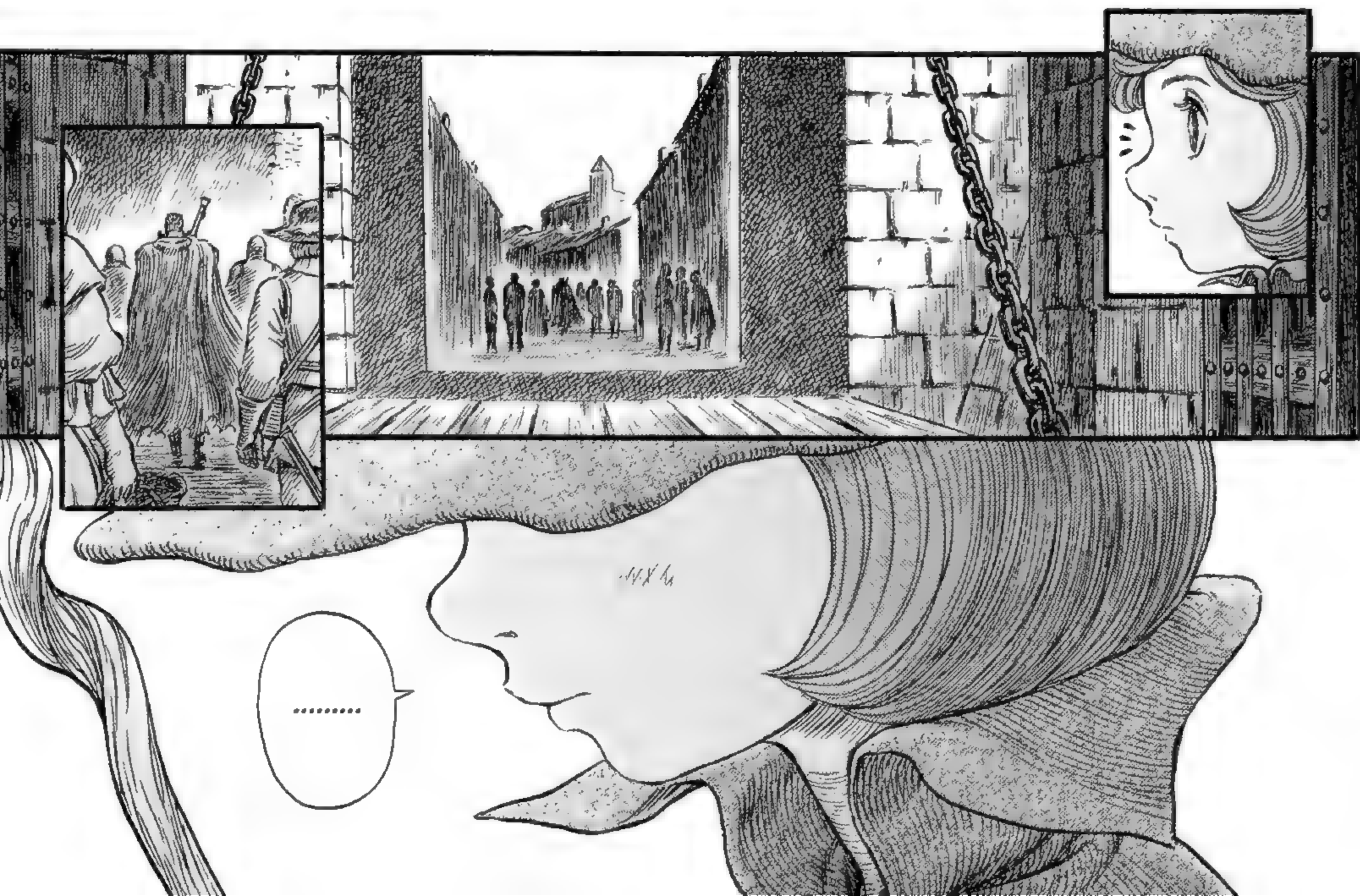
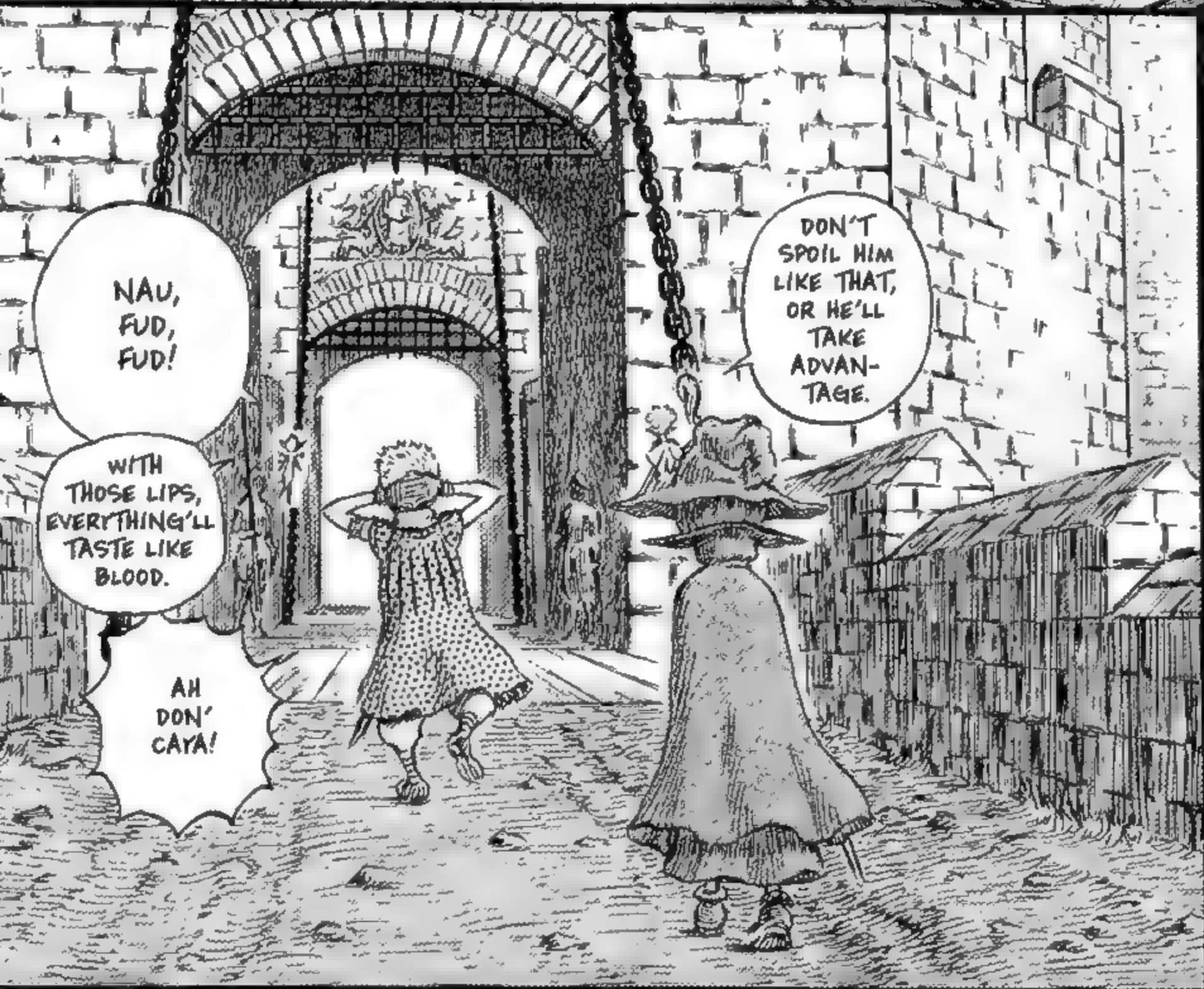
OWUL?

WHAT AN
INTERESTIN'
FACE.

WHAT AN
INTERESTIN'
GIRL.

.....





STAGGERIN'
AROUND IN
THAT HEAVY
ARMOR
OF HIS.

AND SO
I TOTALLY
ALMOST
HAD HIM
ON HIS
KNEES!



ONE MORE HIT,
MAKE NO MISTAKE,
HE'D HAVE BEEN
FISH BAIT! HE WAS
LUCKY, GETTIN'
BAILED OUT BY
A GIRL!



IT HURTS
ME JUST
TO LOOK
AT YOU.

IT CANNOT
BE HELPED.
THE CITY IS SO
FULL OF SOLDIERS,
WE MUST BE
THANKFUL THERE
WAS ANY ROOM
AT ALL.

STILL,
THOUGH, IT'S
NOTHIN' BUT
RUFFIANS IN
HERE. WEREN'T
THERE ANY
BETTER
PLACES?

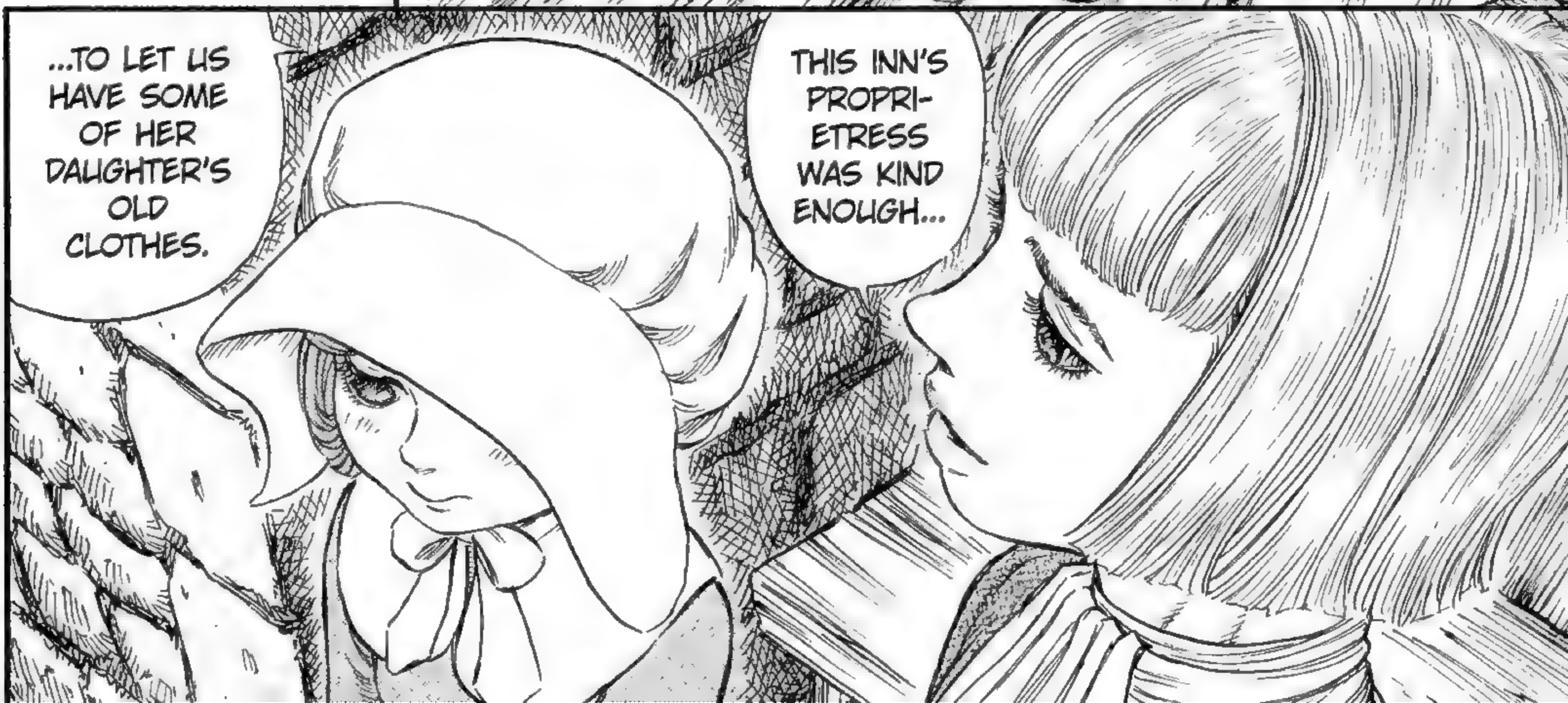


CANTEENS
ARE ALIKE
ANYWHERE
YOU GO.
GAMBLING,
FIGHTS,
WHORES...



PLEASE DON'T
LIFT YOUR FOOT
OVER THE
TABLE DURING
A MEAL.

...AND
DRUNKS.



THIS INN'S PROPRI-ETRESS WAS KIND ENOUGH...



BUT
OH-SO-
LOVELY.
♡

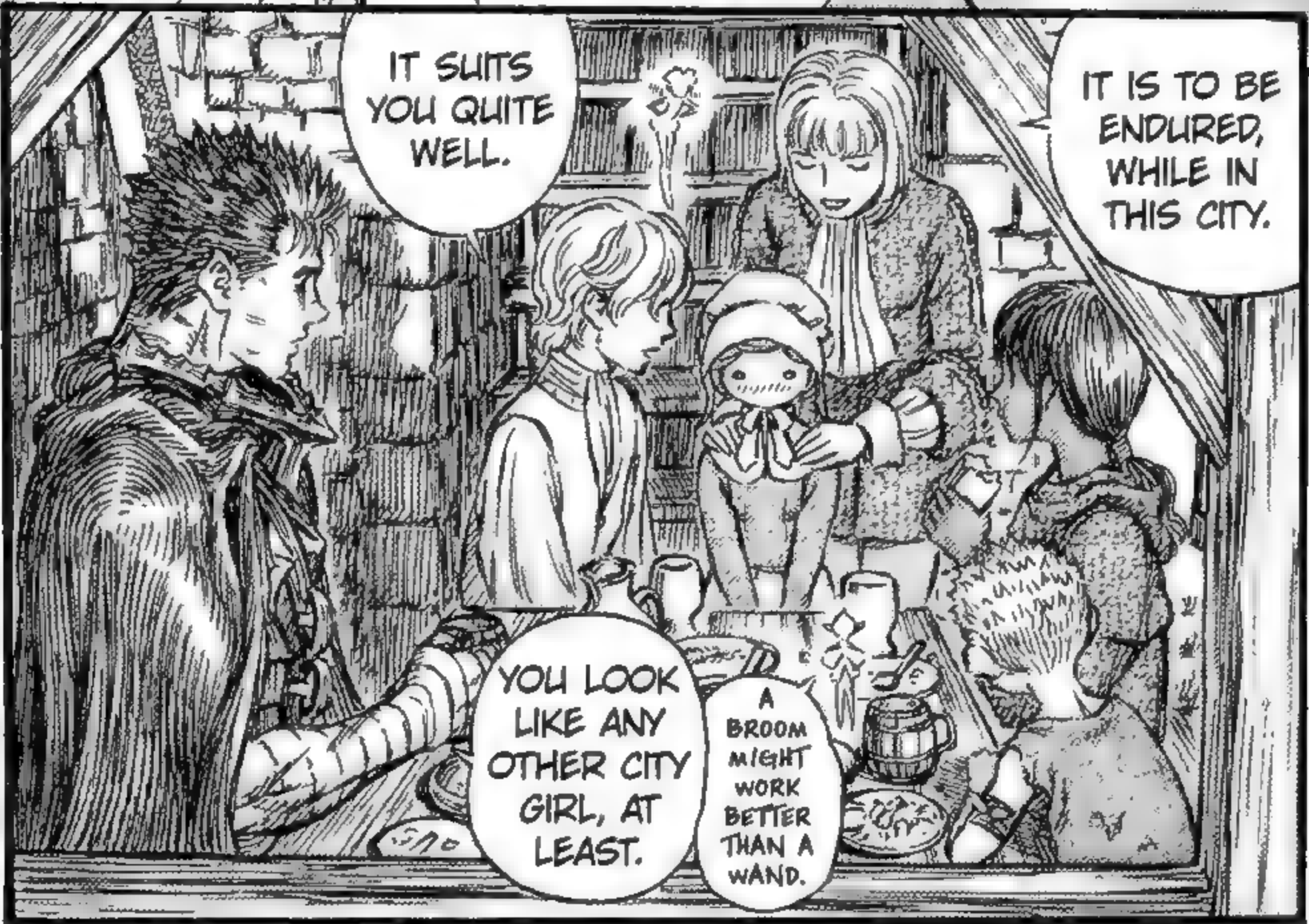


IT IS
SOMEWHAT
CONSTRUCTIVE
AND DIFFICULT
TO MOVE IN.

AND I FEEL
NERVOUS
WITHOUT MY
WAND...
IT FEELS
AWKWARD...



*FX: GLANCE



IT SUITS
YOU QUITE
WELL.

IT IS TO BE
ENDURED,
WHILE IN
THIS CITY.

YOU LOOK
LIKE ANY
OTHER CITY
GIRL, AT
LEAST.

A
BROOM
MIGHT
WORK
BETTER
THAN A
WAND.



WHAT
?

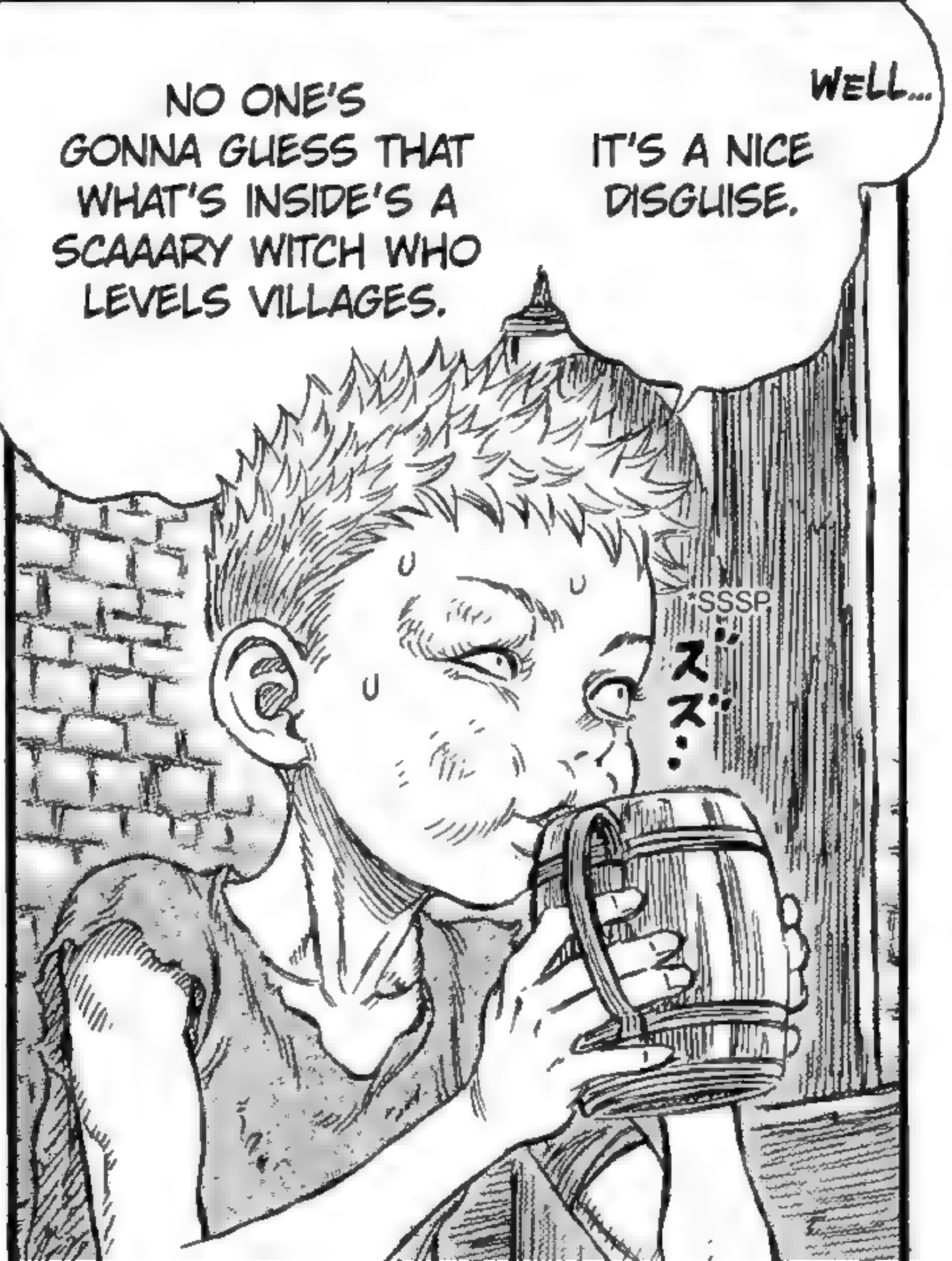
WH...

A
MONKEY
TO THE
END.

YOU
NEVER
LEARN.



*GYA HAH HAH HAH HAH

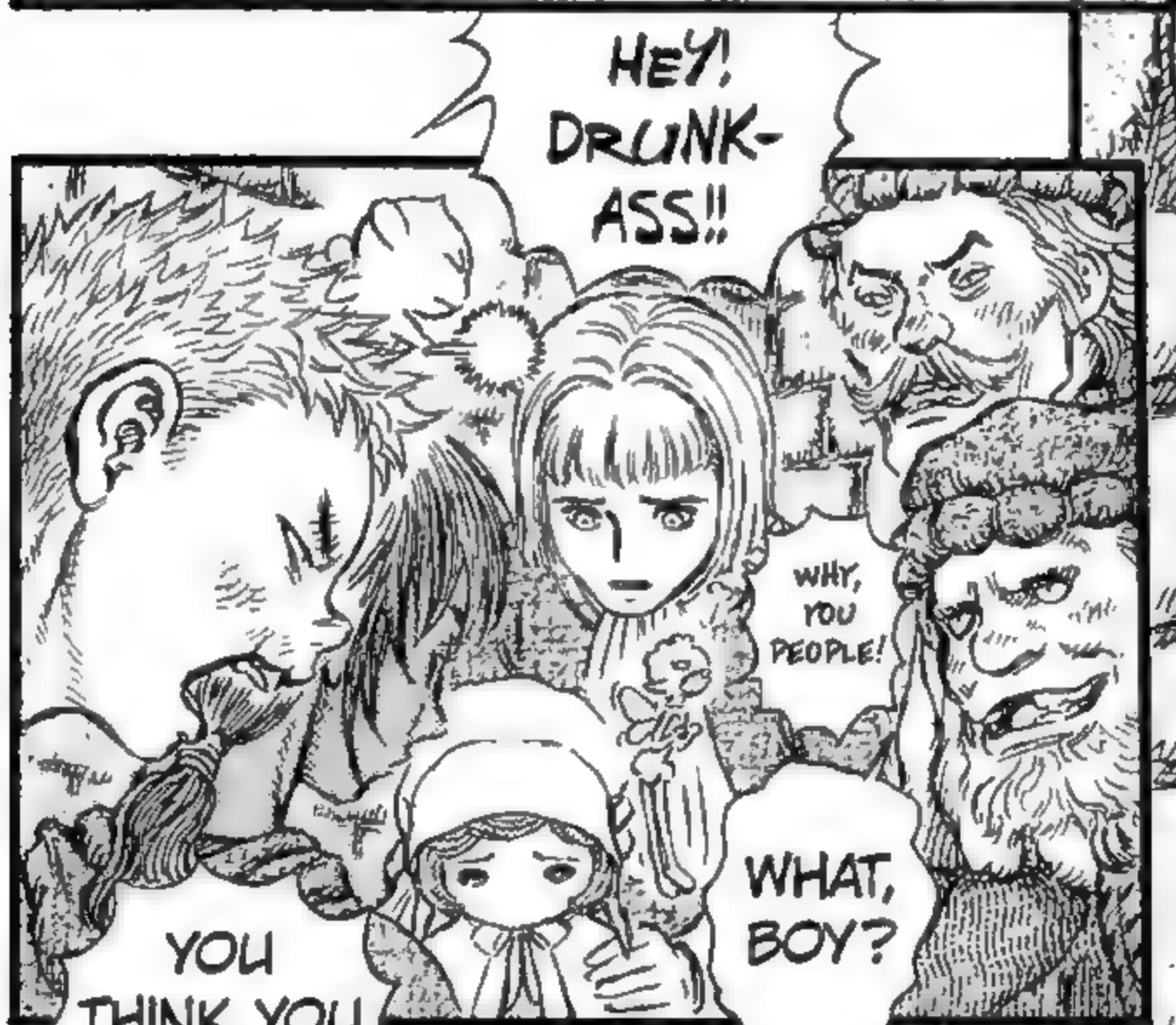


NO ONE'S
GONNA GUESS THAT
WHAT'S INSIDE'S A
SCAAARY WITCH WHO
LEVELS VILLAGES.

IT'S A NICE
DISGUISE.

WELL...

*SSSP
スズ
スズ





...FOR
STAININ'
OUR GIRL'S
NICEST
CLOTHES.



WHAT
THE
HELL?!

AG
HH?!

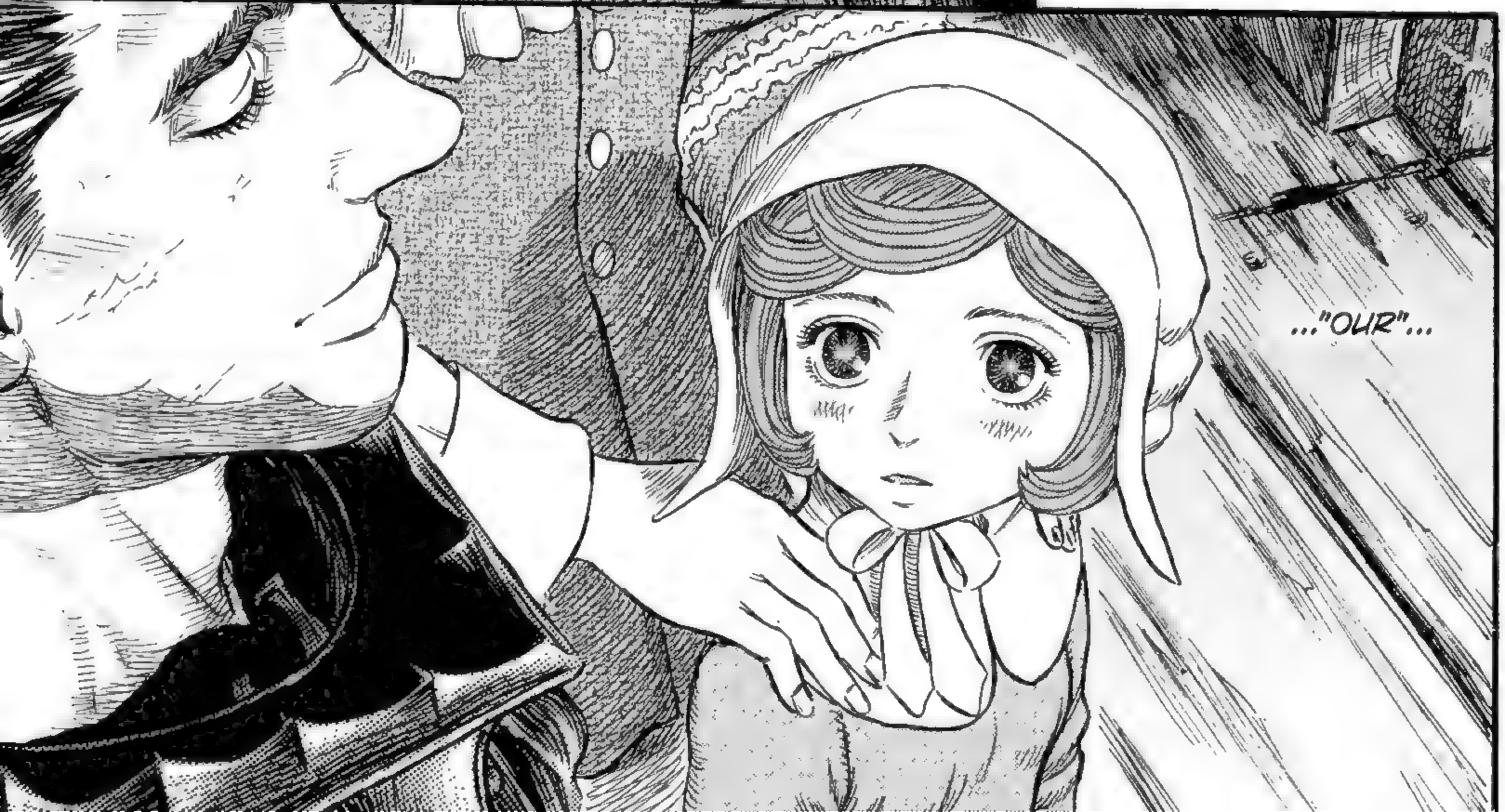
I
GET THE
FEELIN'
HE WAS
SAYIN'
SOMETHIN'
DOWNRIGHT
PROPER...

*FX: KRASSH



THAT
WAS
PAYBACK
...

*FX: SHAKE SHAKE



..."OUR"...



ALTHOUGH...

NOT
BAD AT
ALL.

MISTRESS...



TAHH!

*KRISSSH

*CRASSH



EHEHEH...
WIMMINNN.

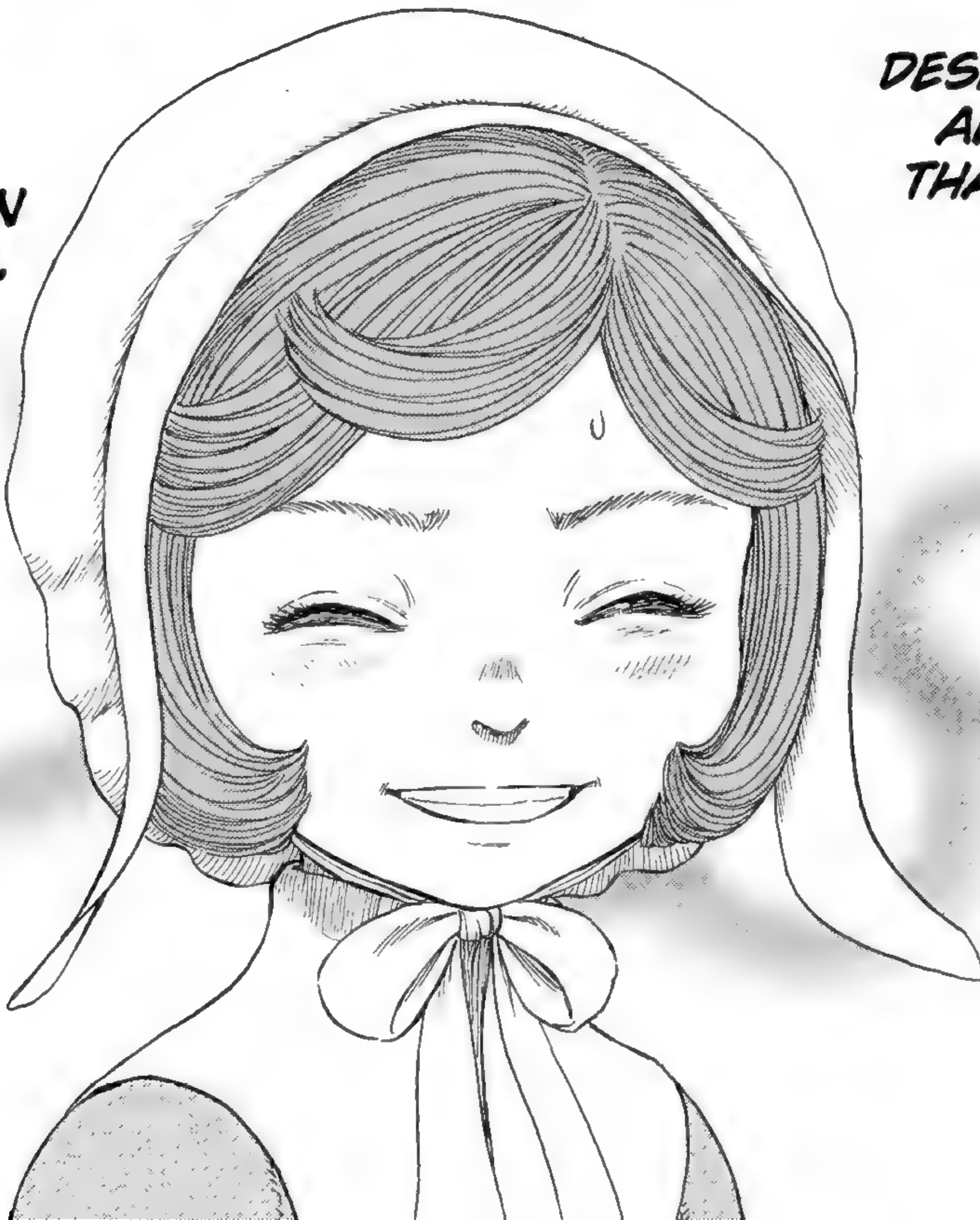
*FX: SHFF



*WHMP

...AND DIS-
GRACEFUL.

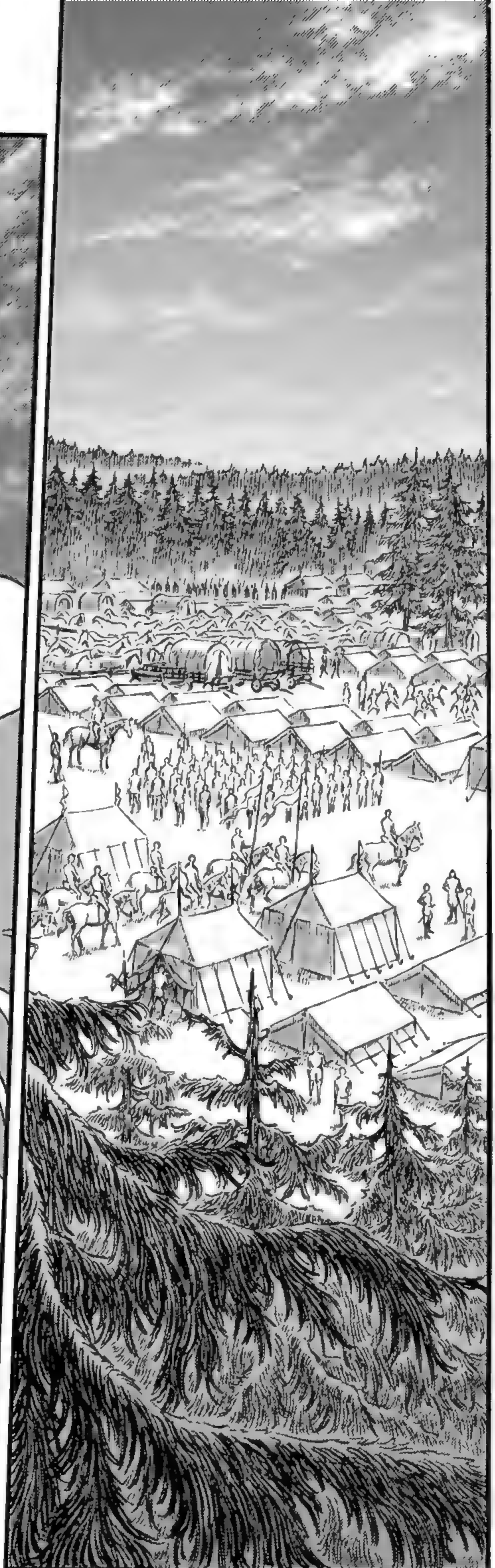
...I CAN
SMILE.



DESPITE
ALL
THAT...

HOMING
帰 巢

BERSERK





*SHNK

MMM.

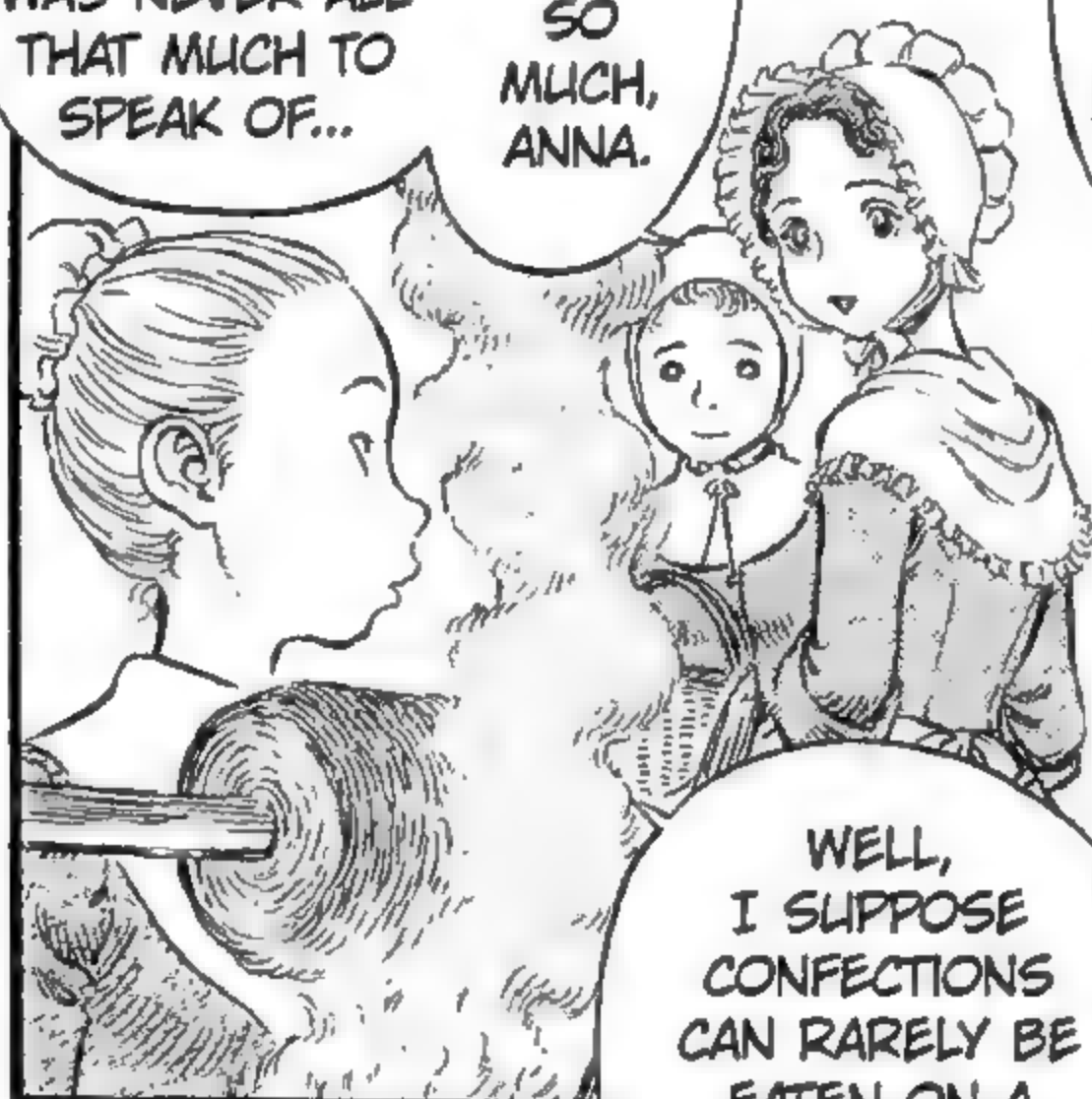
IT BAKED
WELL THIS
TIME.

THE COUNTRY
COOKING OF MY
MOTHER'S FAMILY
WAS NEVER ALL
THAT MUCH TO
SPEAK OF...

THANKS.
YOU HELPED
SO MUCH,
ANNA.

GOOD
EFFORT,
YOUR
HIGHNESS.

I'M SURE
EVEN LORD
GRIFFITH
WOULD LIKE
SOME OF
THIS.



WELL,
I SUPPOSE
CONFECTIONS
CAN RARELY BE
EATEN ON A
BATTLEFIELD.



JUST
WALK
OVER
AND SEE
HIM.

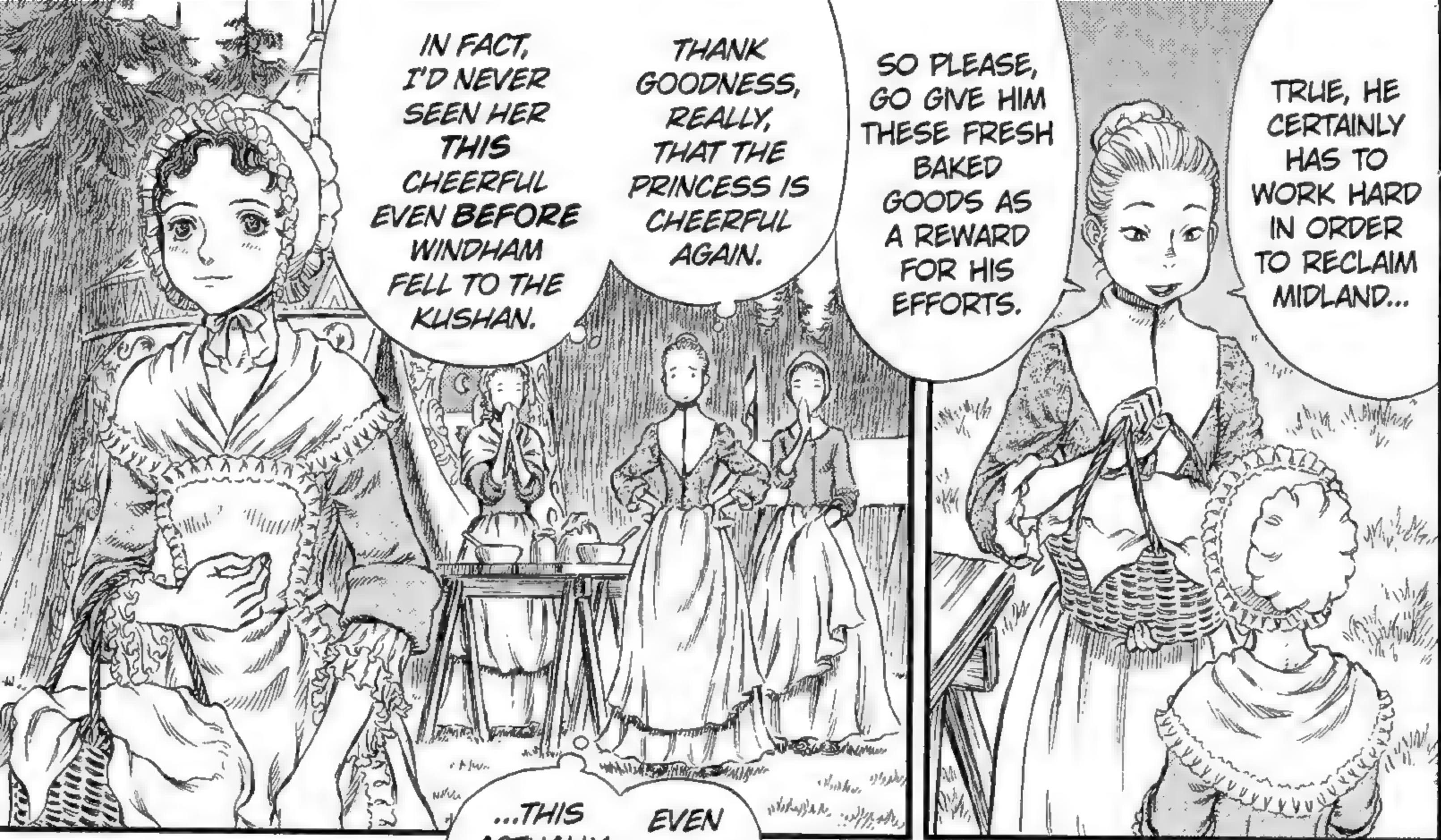
BUT, YOU
NEEDN'T
GO OUT
OF YOUR
WAY TO
BAKE UP
SUCH A
PRETEXT.



I COULD
NEVER
GO AND
BOTHER
HIM.

N-NO!
LORD
GRIFFITH
SEEMS
TO BE
SO
BUSY.

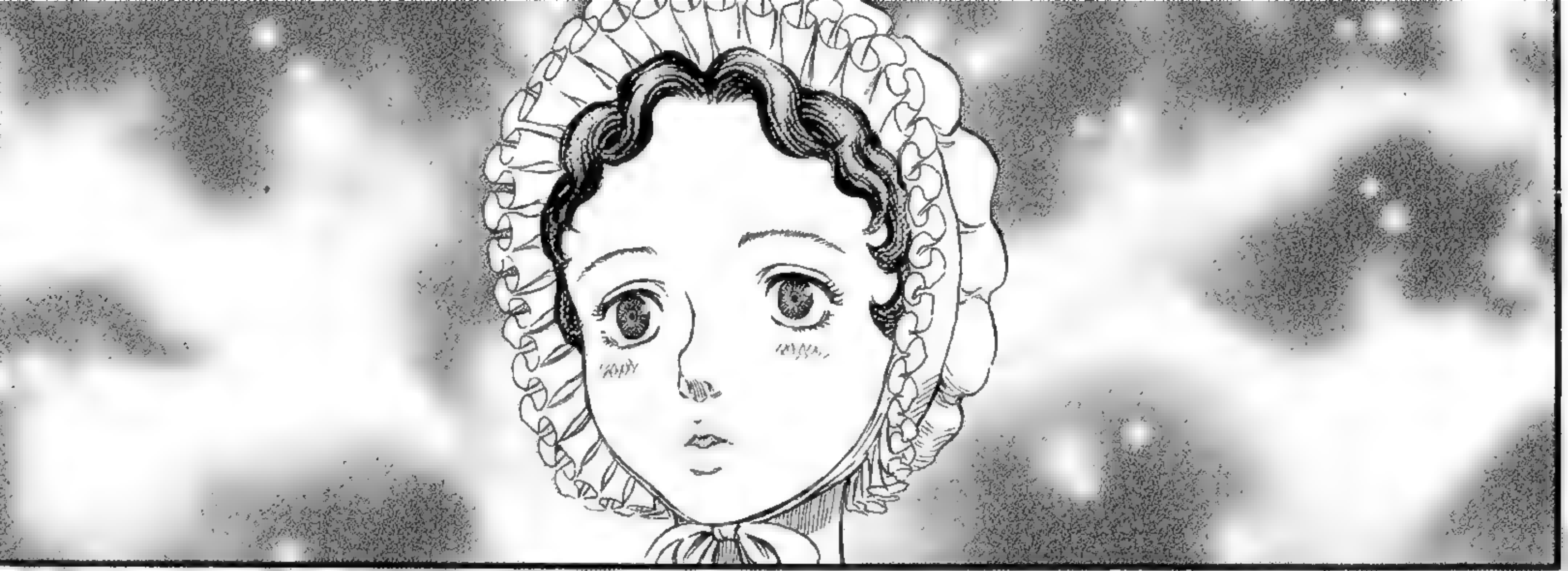




...THIS ACTUALLY IS A BATTLE-FIELD. EVEN THOUGH ...

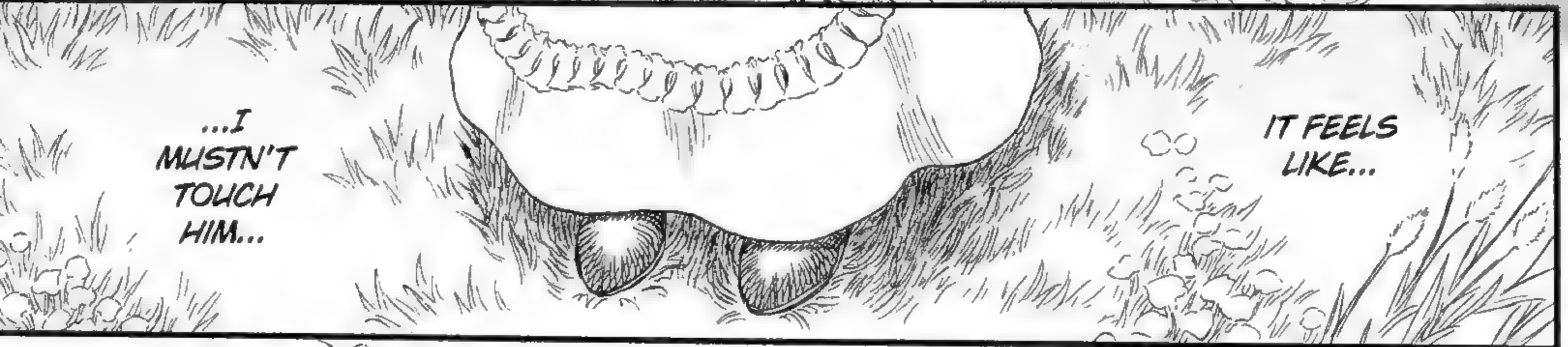






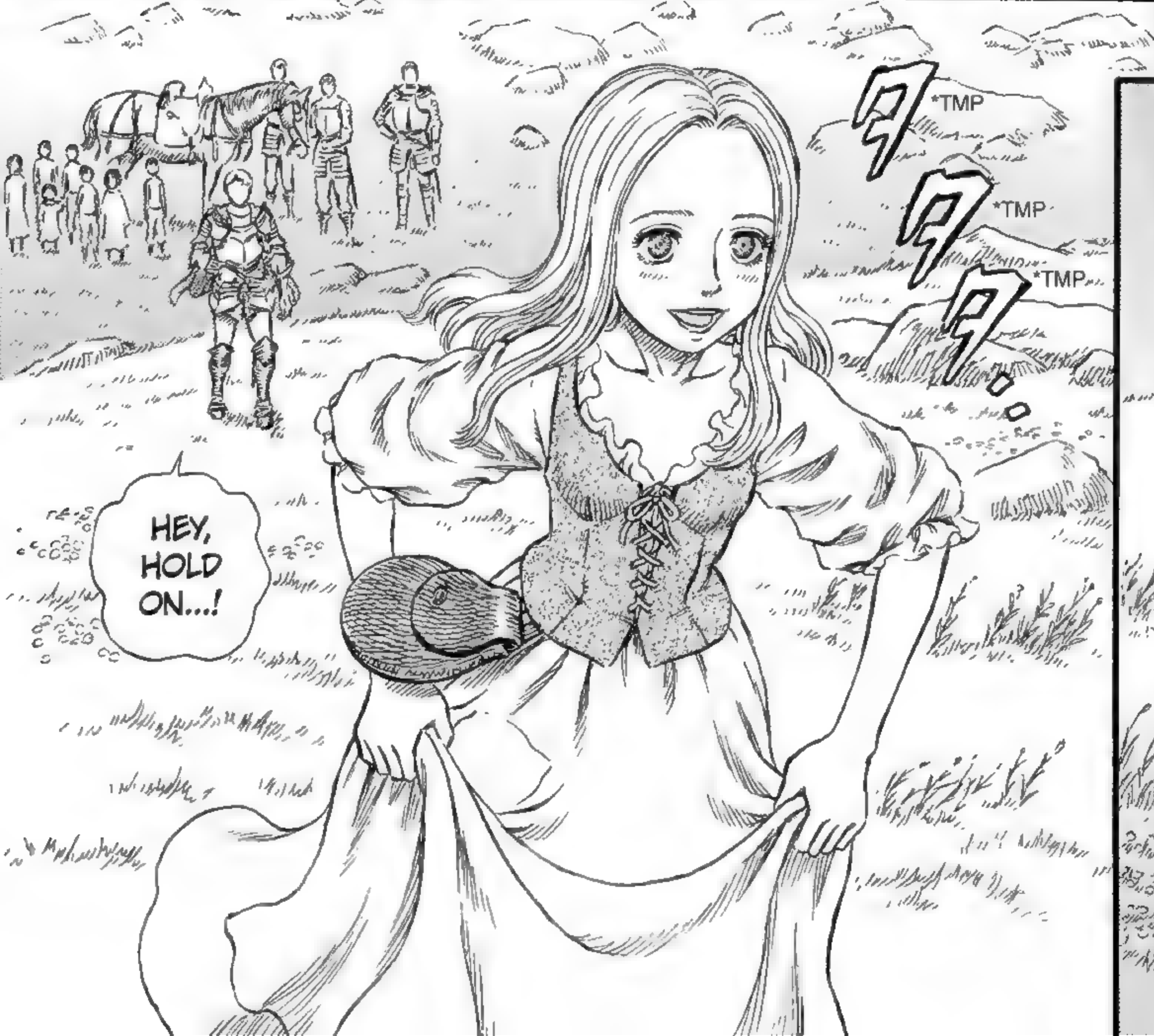
ONE CUT
FROM
ETERNITY...

ALMOST
LIKE A
PAINTING...

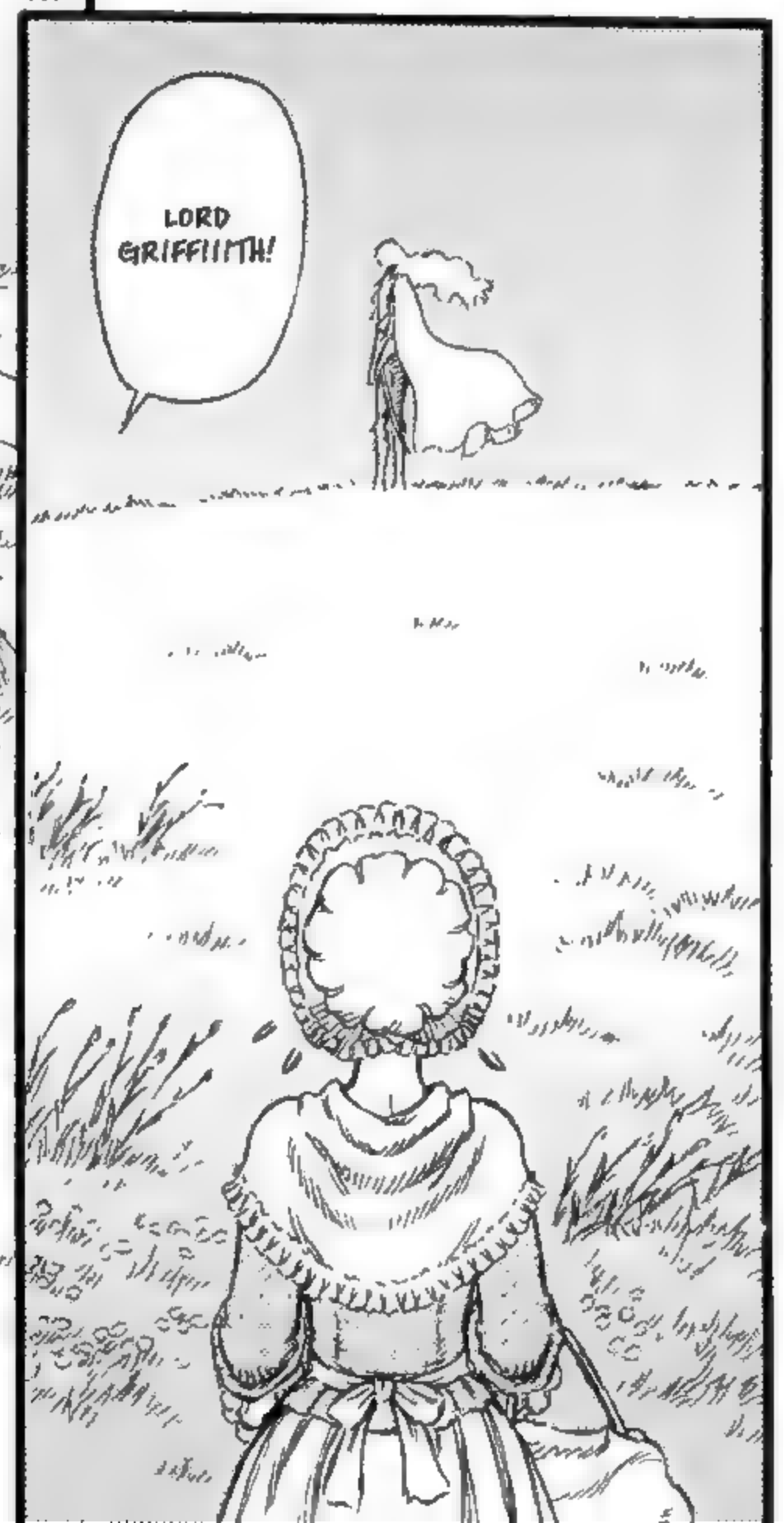


...I
MUSTN'T
TOUCH
HIM...

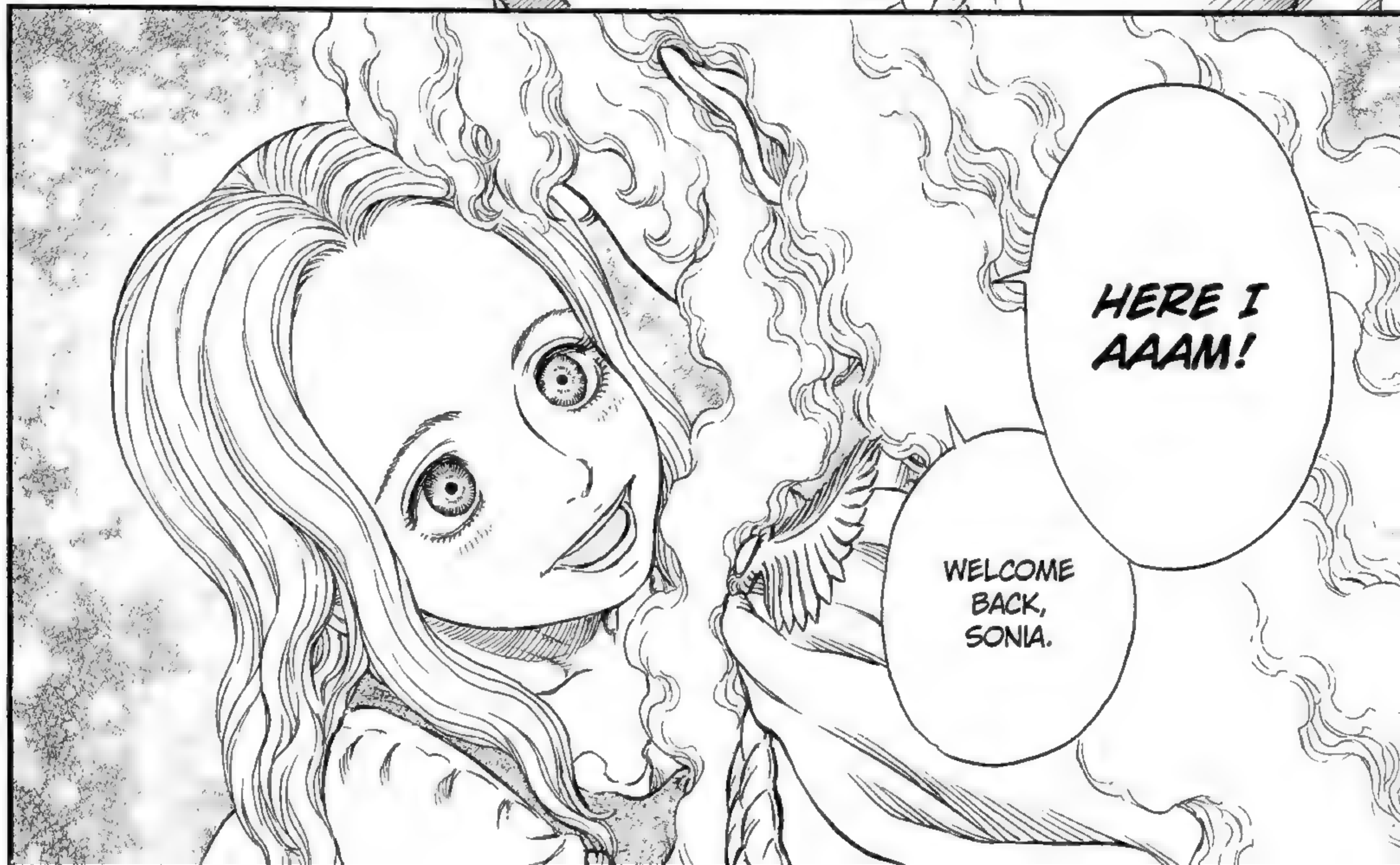
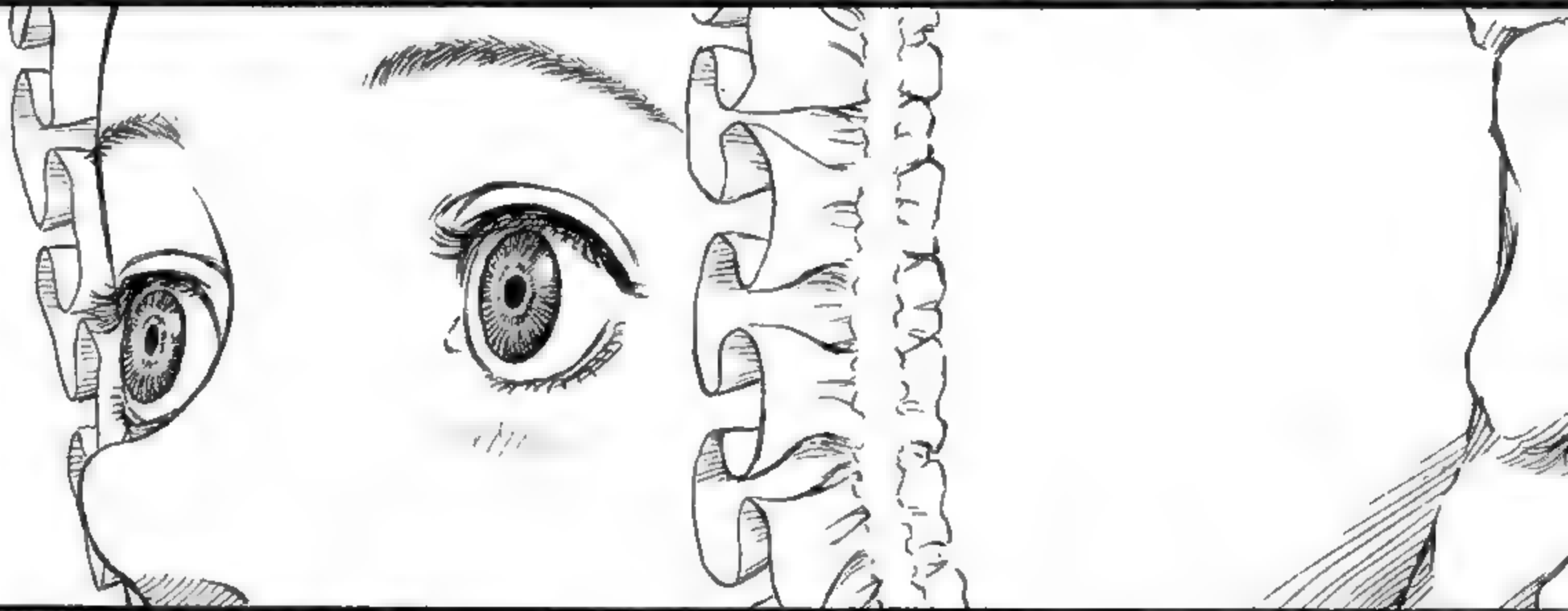
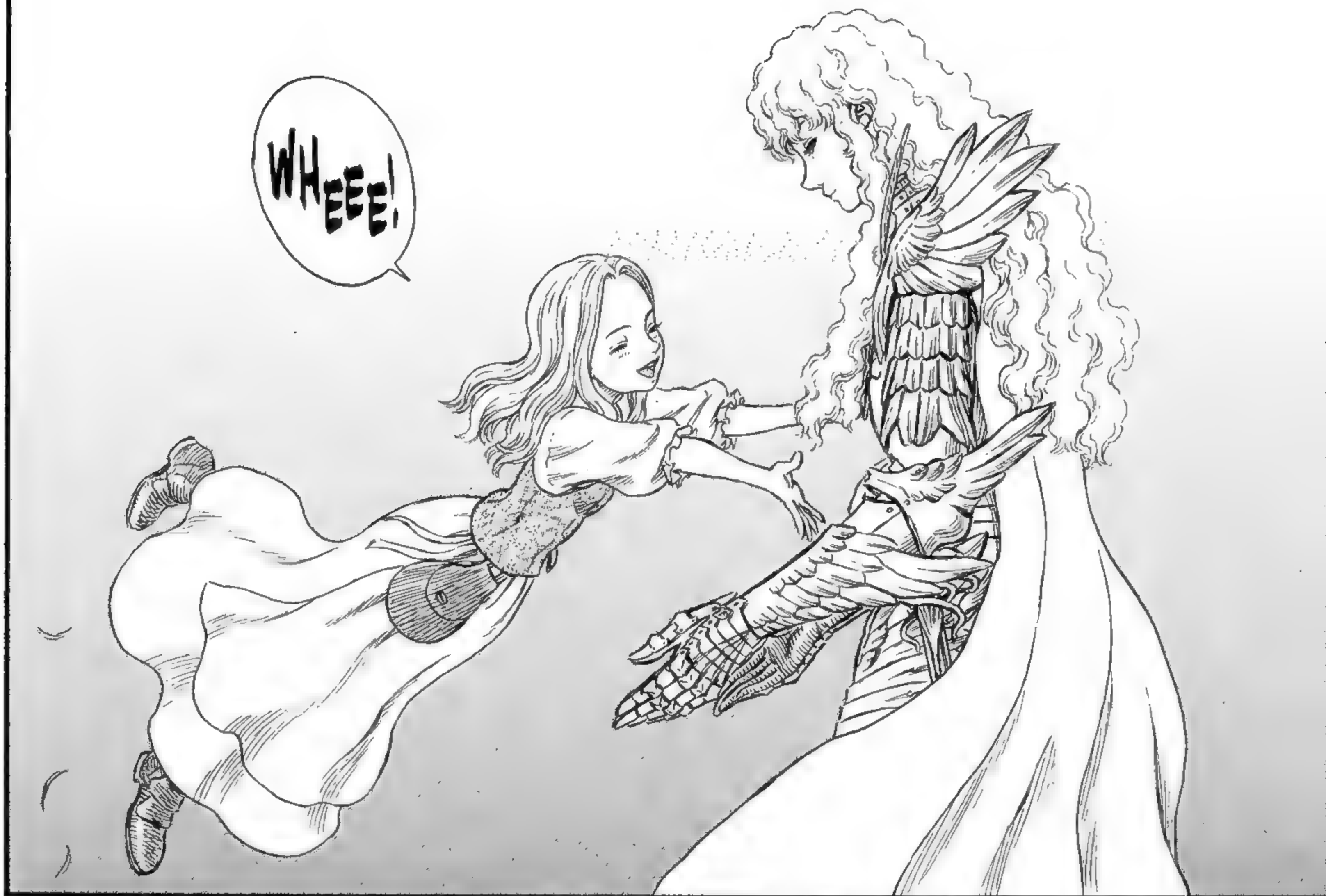
IT FEELS
LIKE...

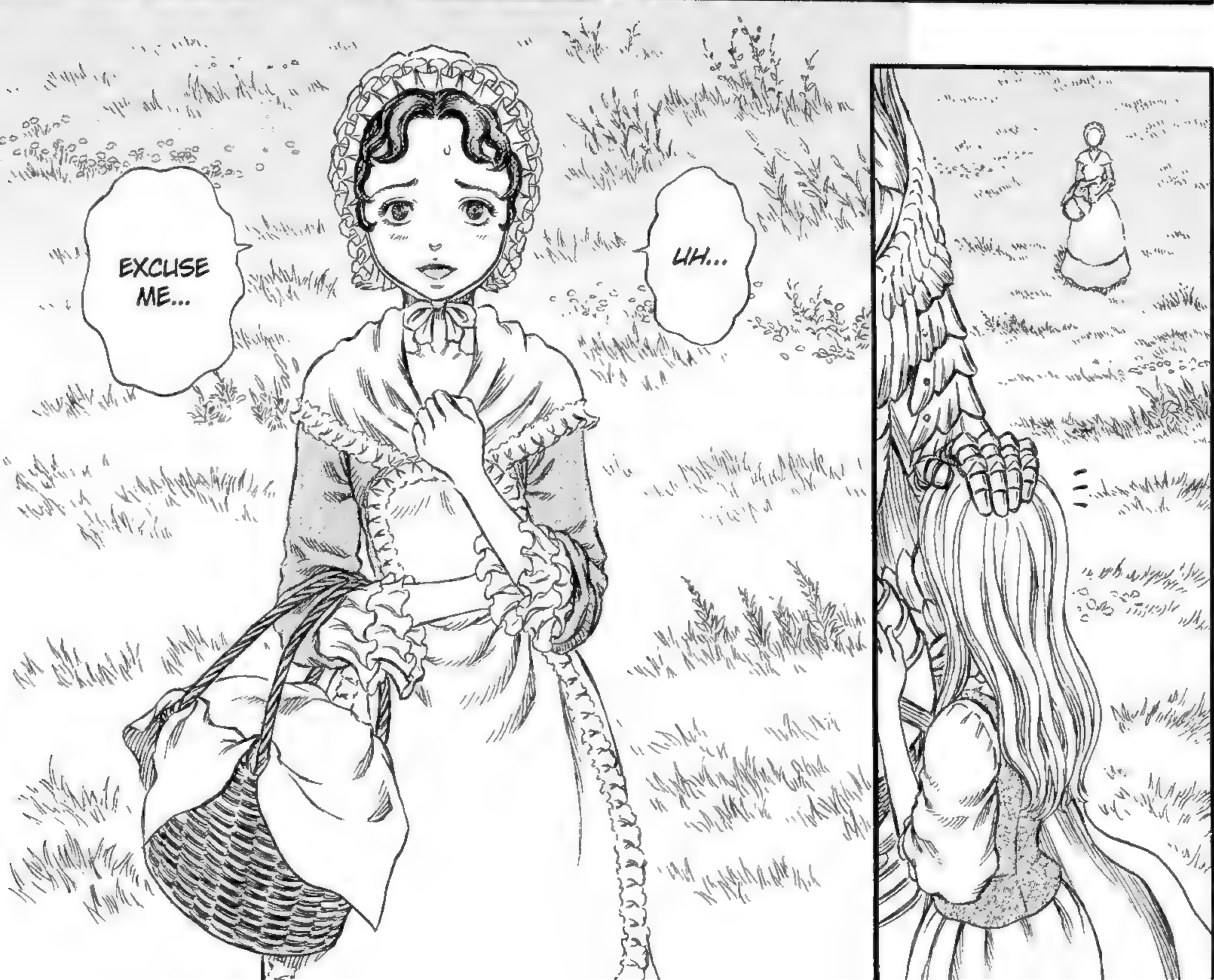
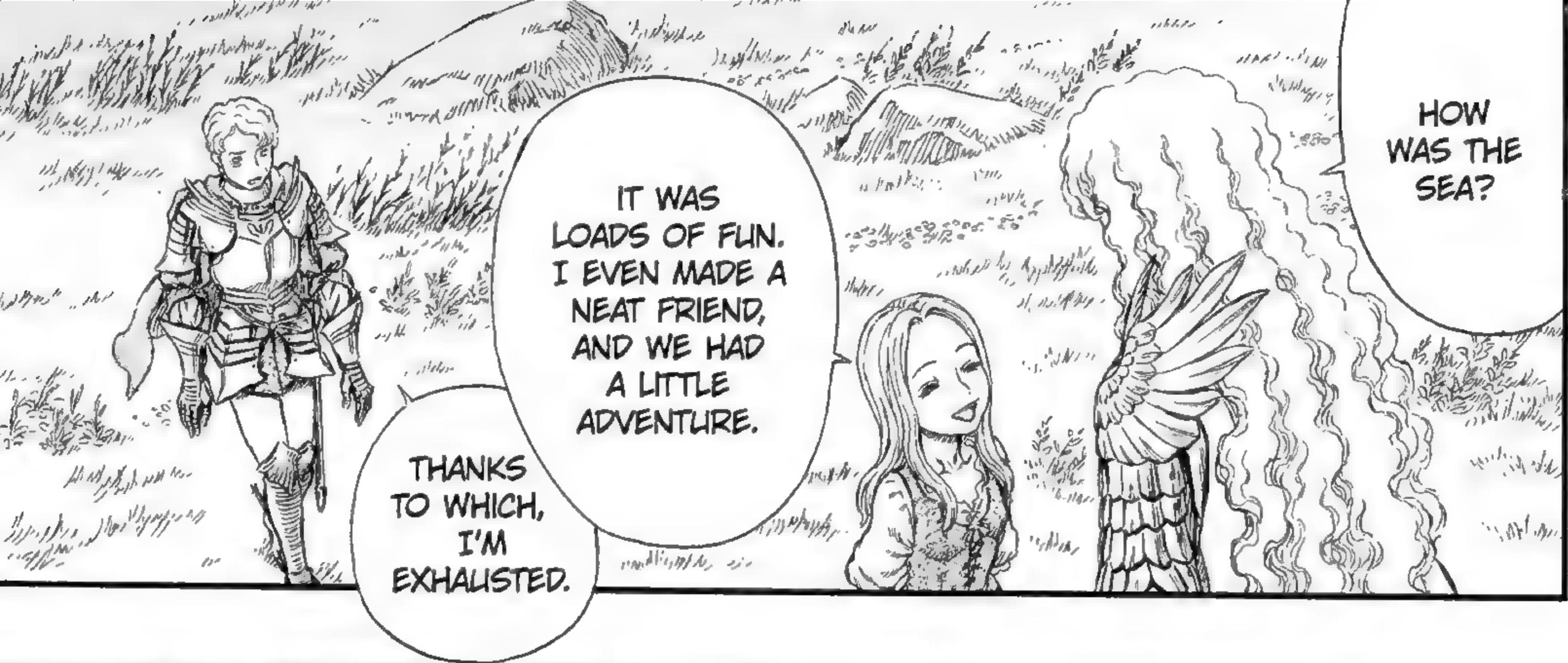


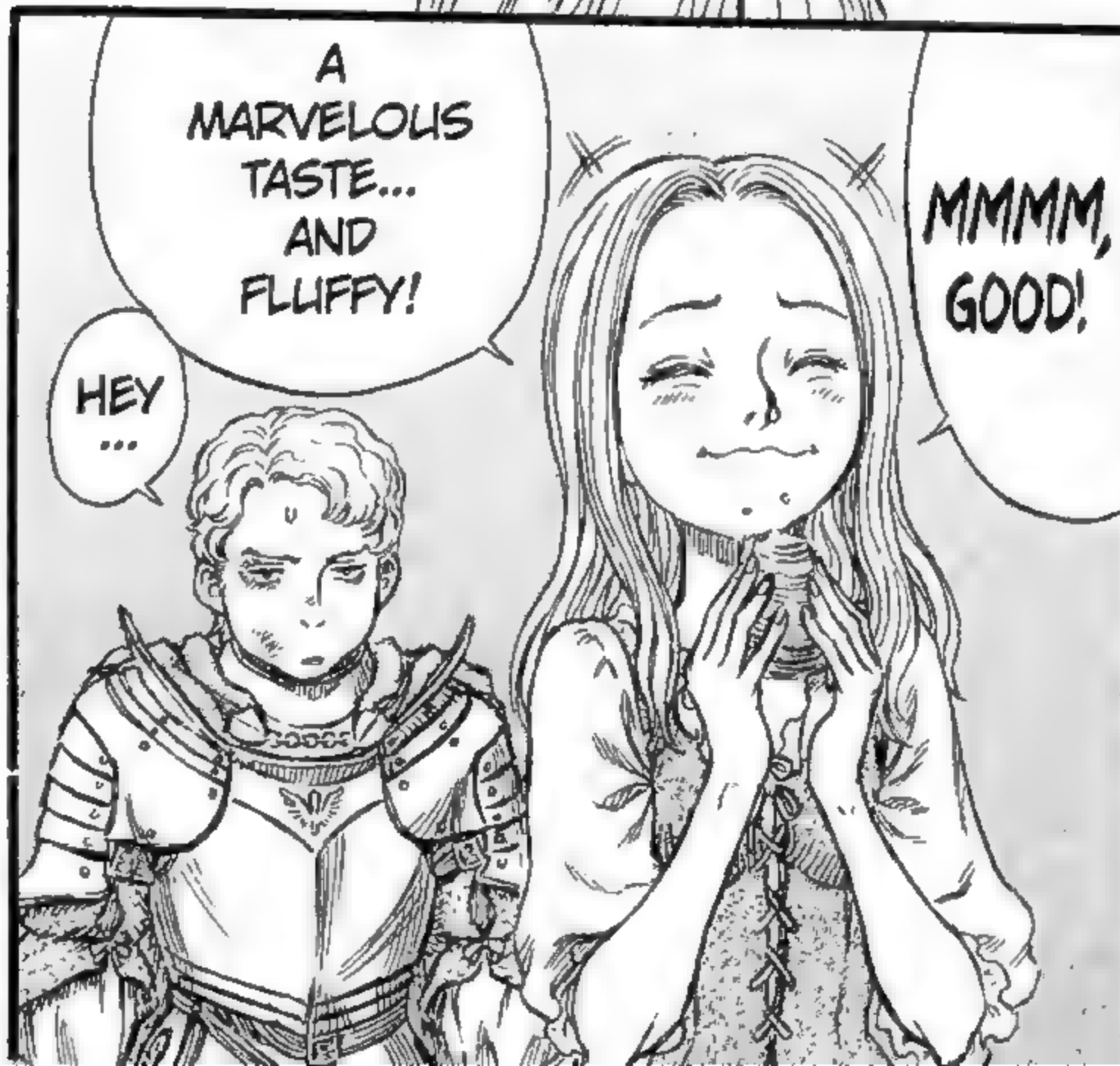
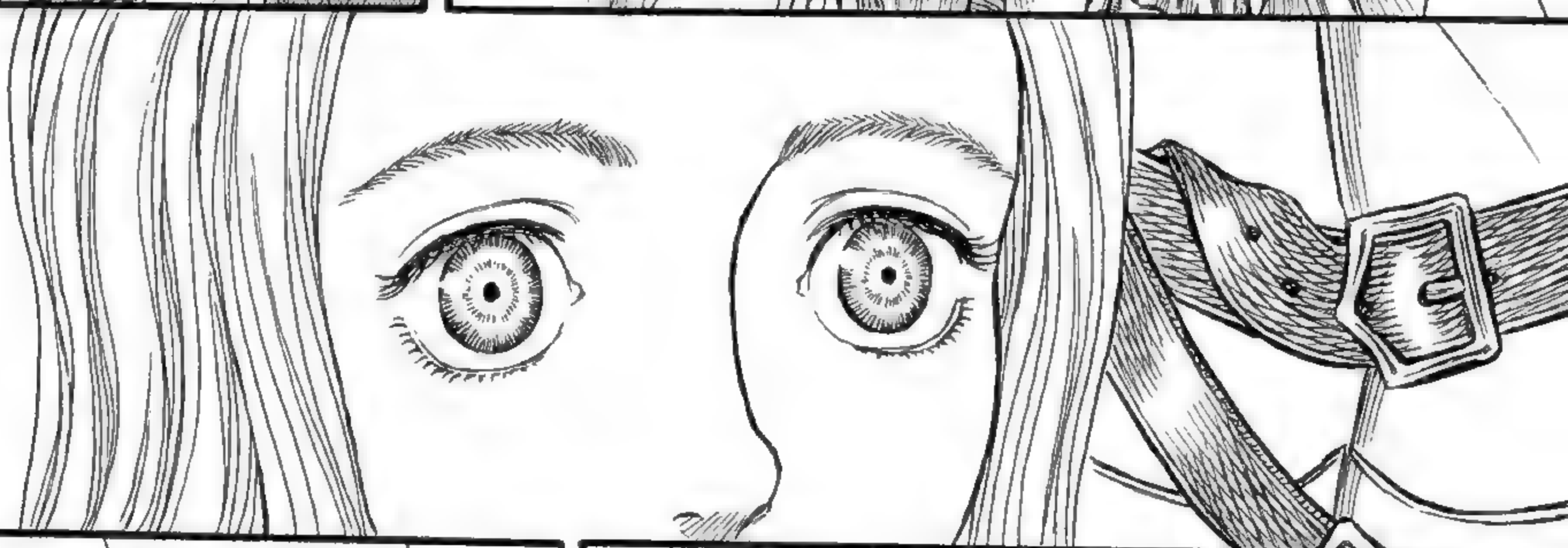
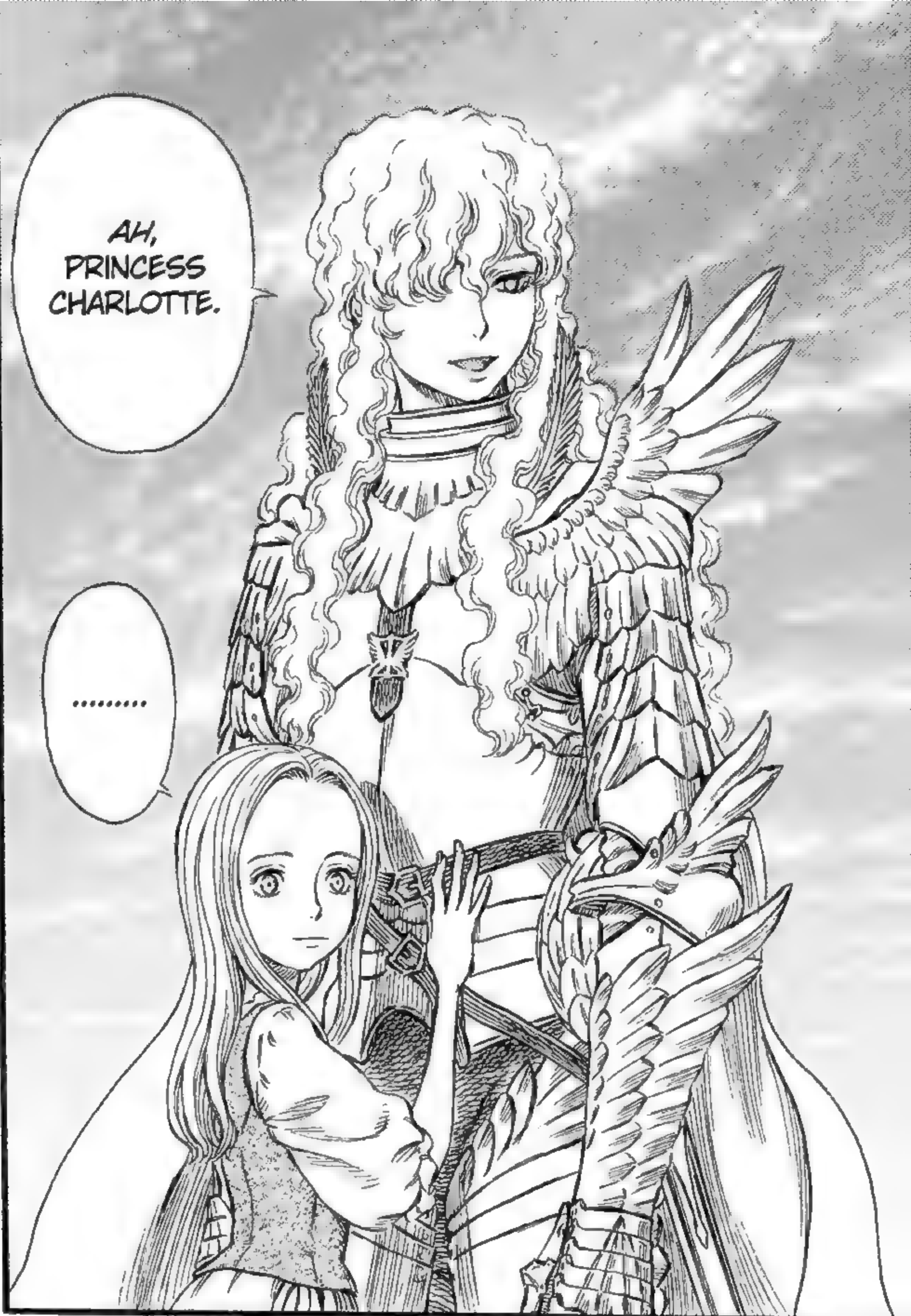
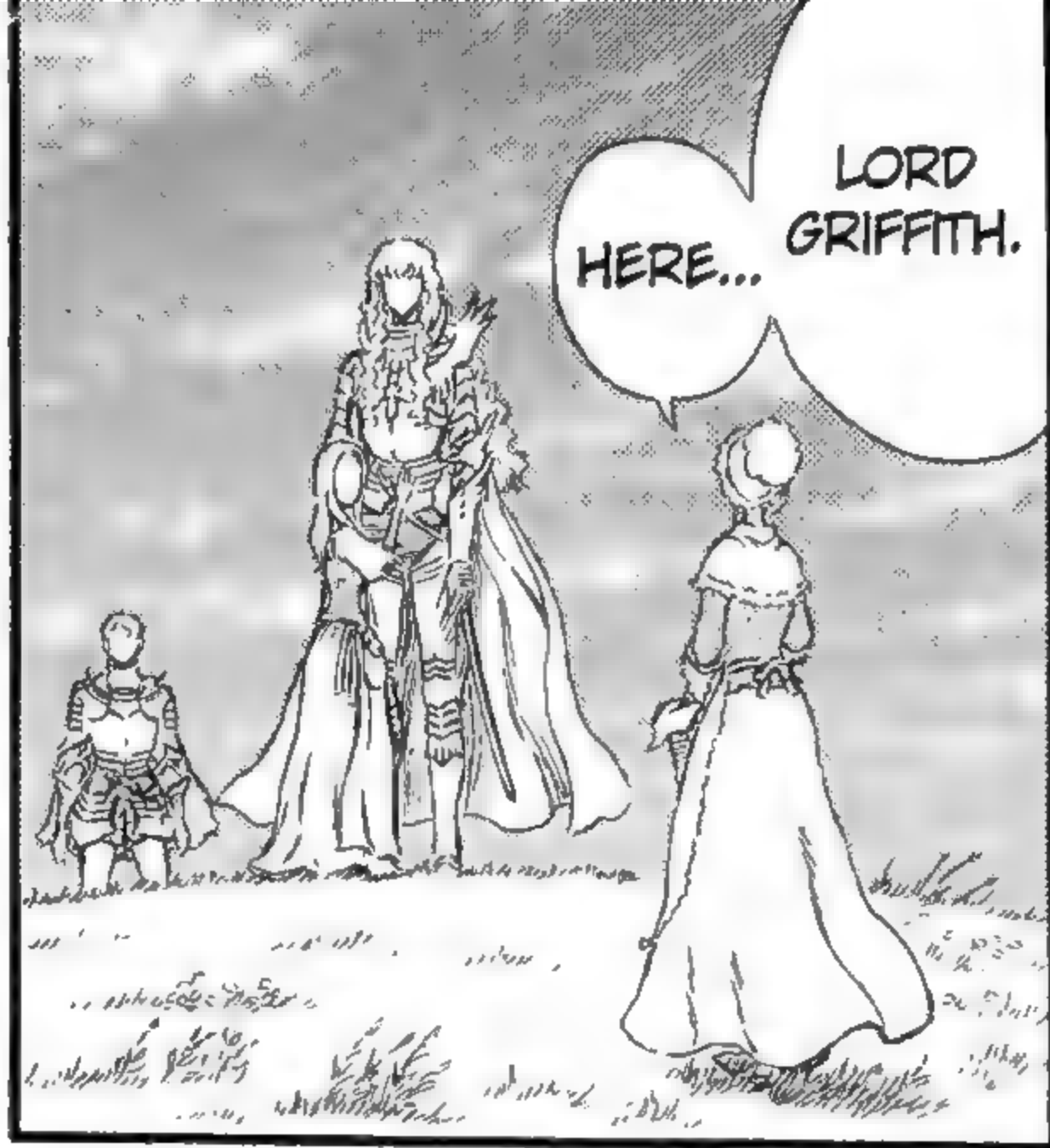
HEY,
HOLD
ON...!



LORD
GRIFFITH!

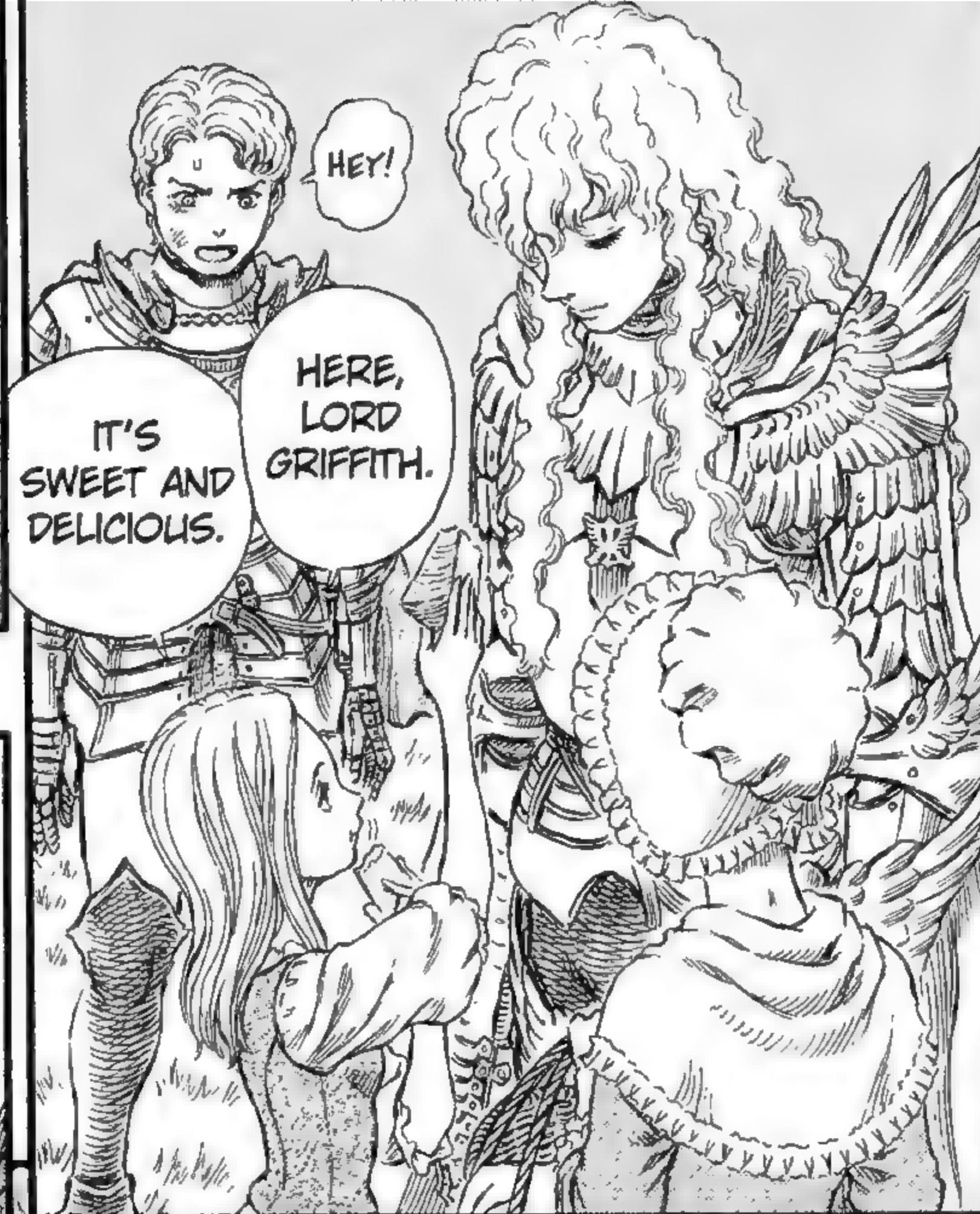








...



HEY!

IT'S
SWEET AND
DELICIOUS.

HERE,
LORD
GRIFFITH.



YOU HAVE
SOME TOO,
MULE.

*MNCH
MNCH
モフ.
モフ.

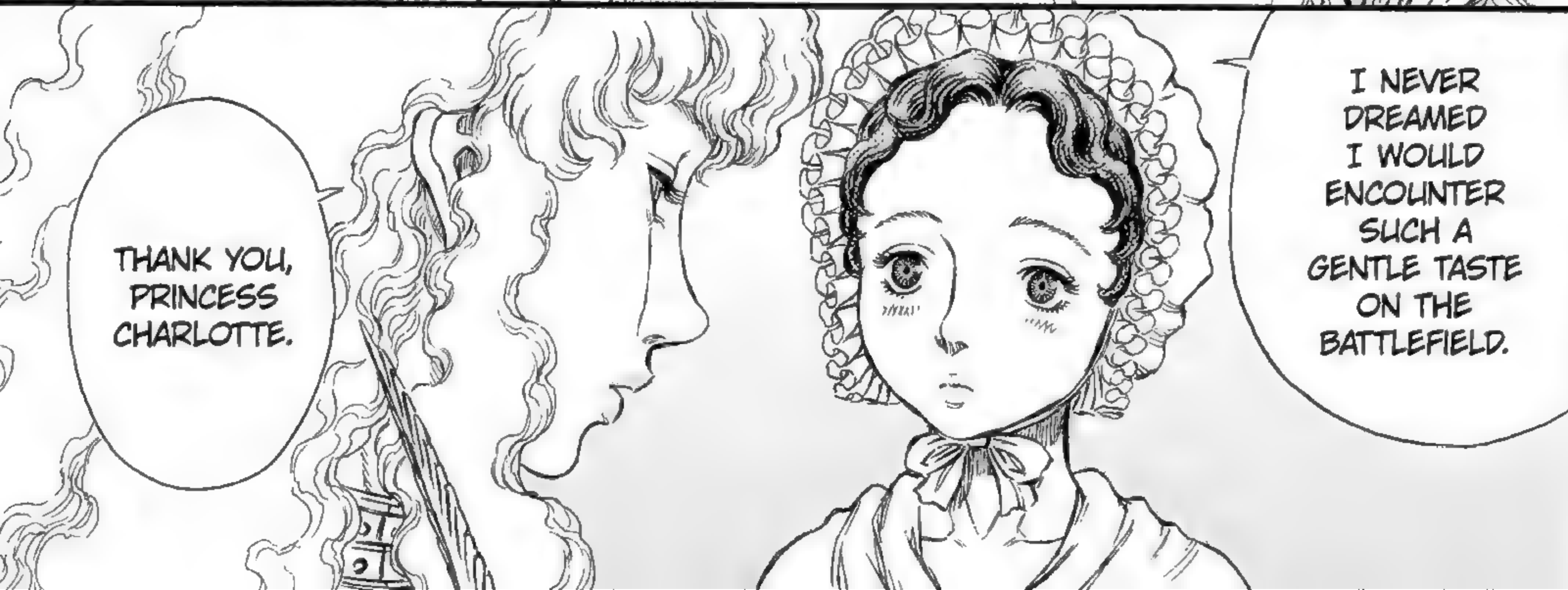
NOW
LOOK
...



SOMEHOW,
IT SETS
THE MOUTH
AT EASE.

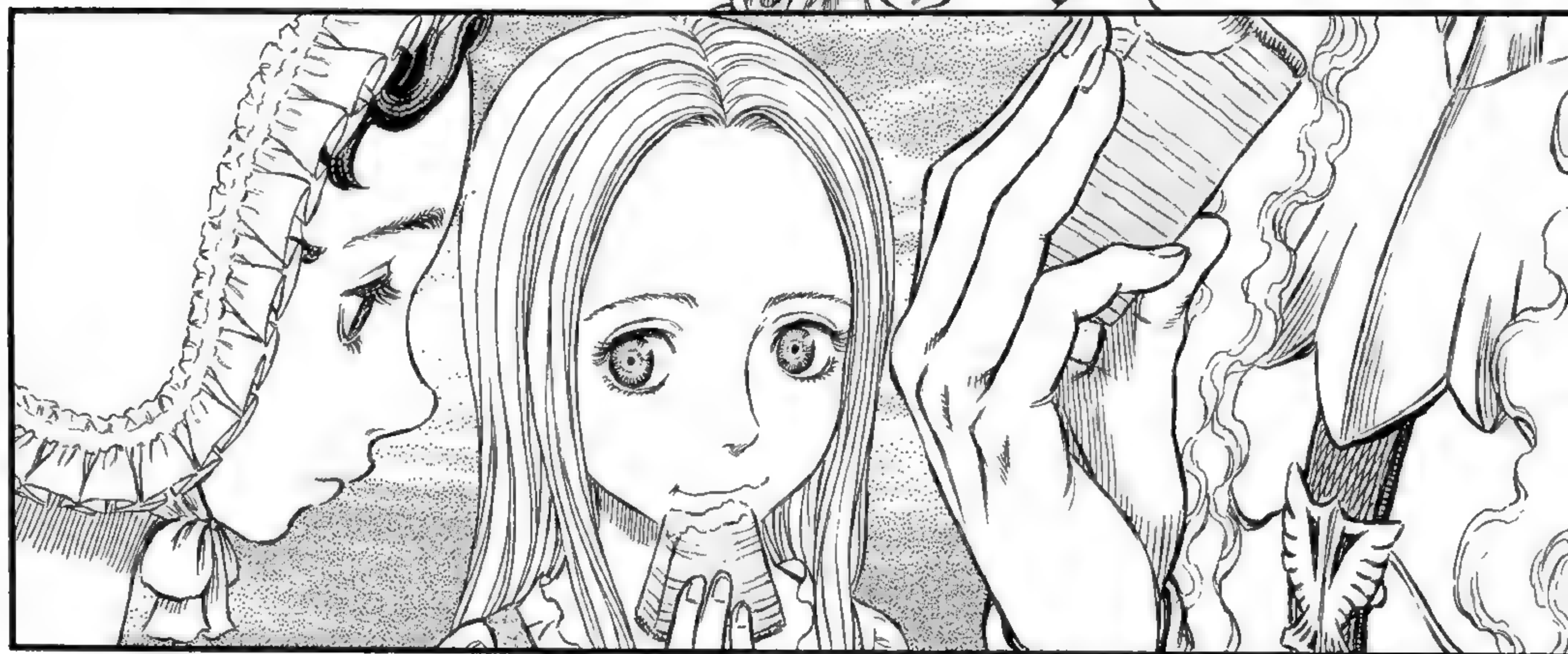
IT
SMELLS
NICE...

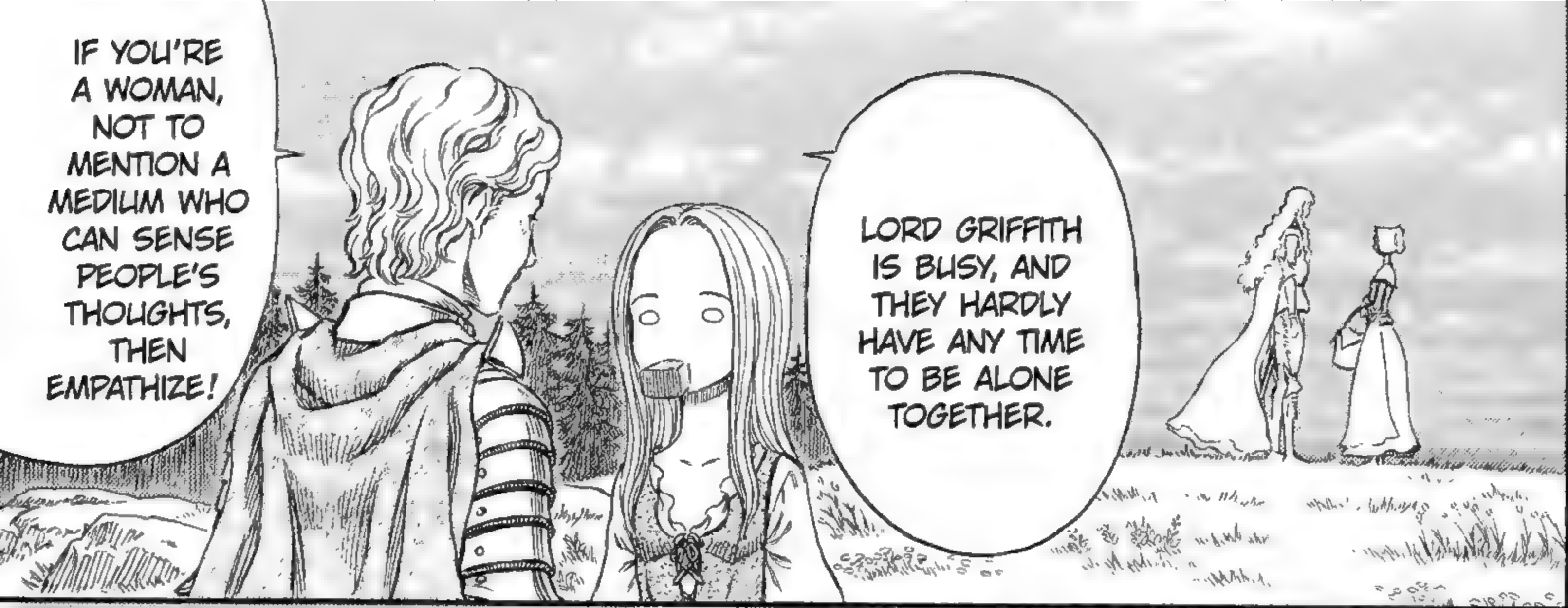
SWEET.



THANK YOU,
PRINCESS
CHARLOTTE.

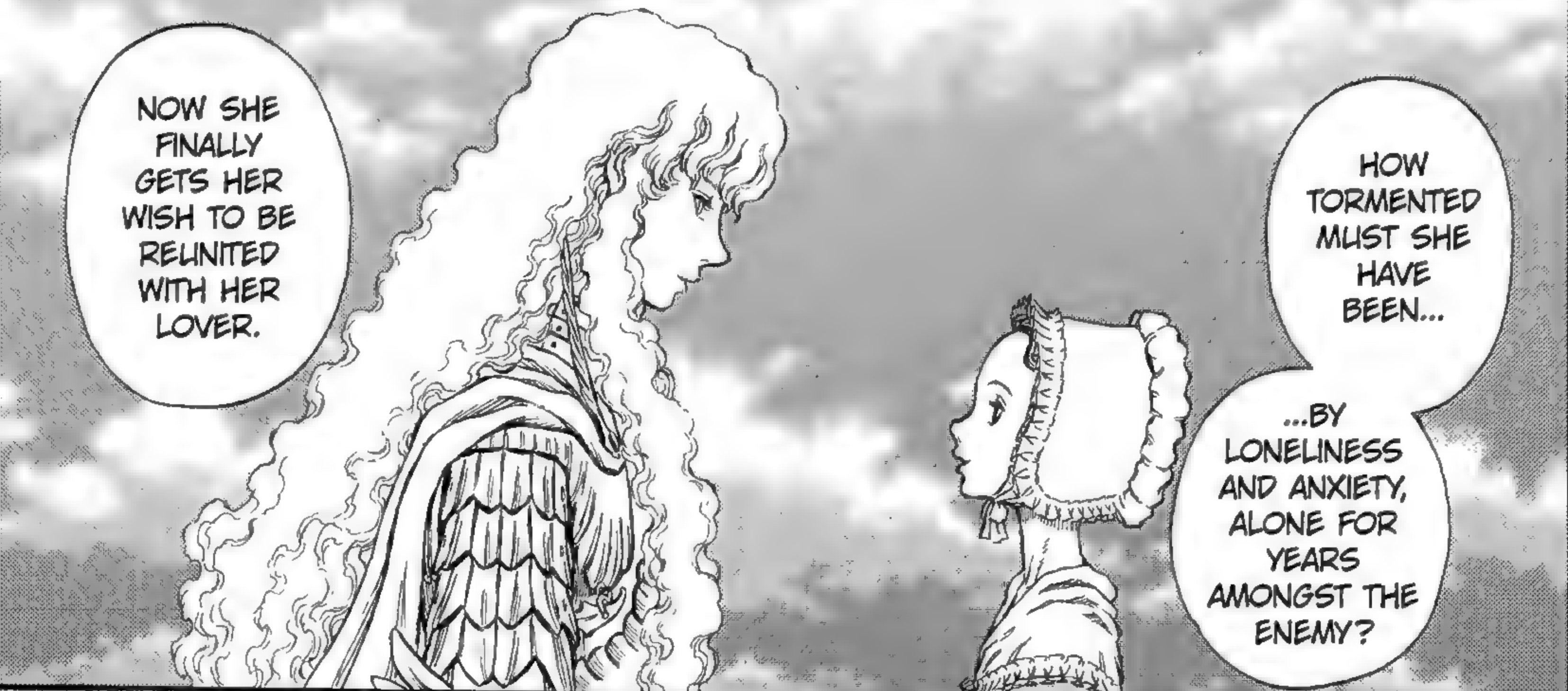
I NEVER
DREAMED
I WOULD
ENCOUNTER
SUCH A
GENTLE TASTE
ON THE
BATTLEFIELD.





IF YOU'RE
A WOMAN,
NOT TO
MENTION A
MEDIUM WHO
CAN SENSE
PEOPLE'S
THOUGHTS,
THEN
EMPATHIZE!

LORD GRIFFITH
IS BUSY, AND
THEY HARDLY
HAVE ANY TIME
TO BE ALONE
TOGETHER.



NOW SHE
FINALLY
GETS HER
WISH TO BE
REUNITED
WITH HER
LOVER.

HOW
TORMENTED
MUST SHE
HAVE
BEEN...

...BY
LONELINESS
AND ANXIETY,
ALONE FOR
YEARS
AMONGST THE
ENEMY?



YOU
CAN
HAVE
THAT.

OFHH...

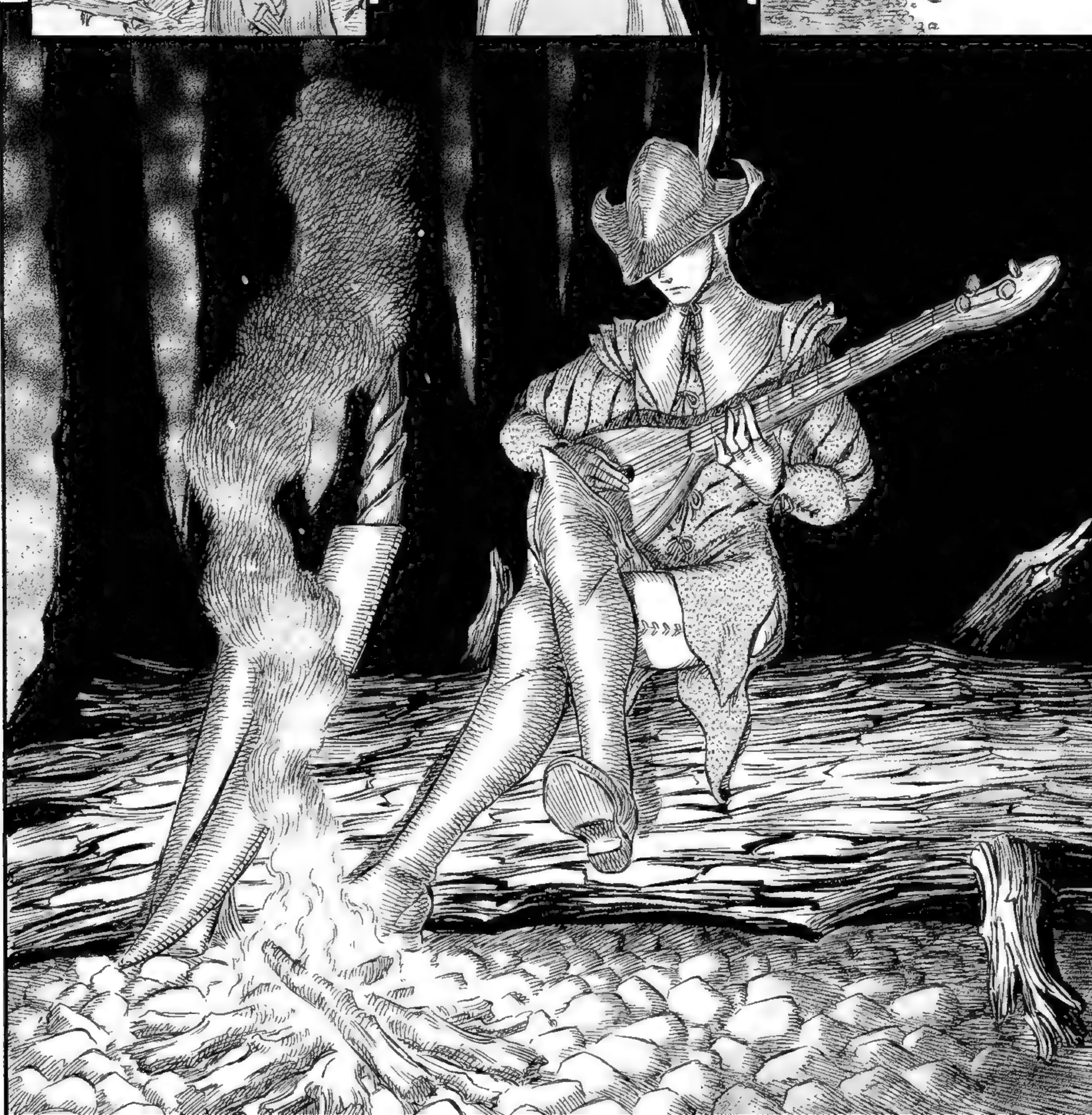
BYE.



PLUNK
カポ



GOOH
GEEFH...
MMM,
GOOH...



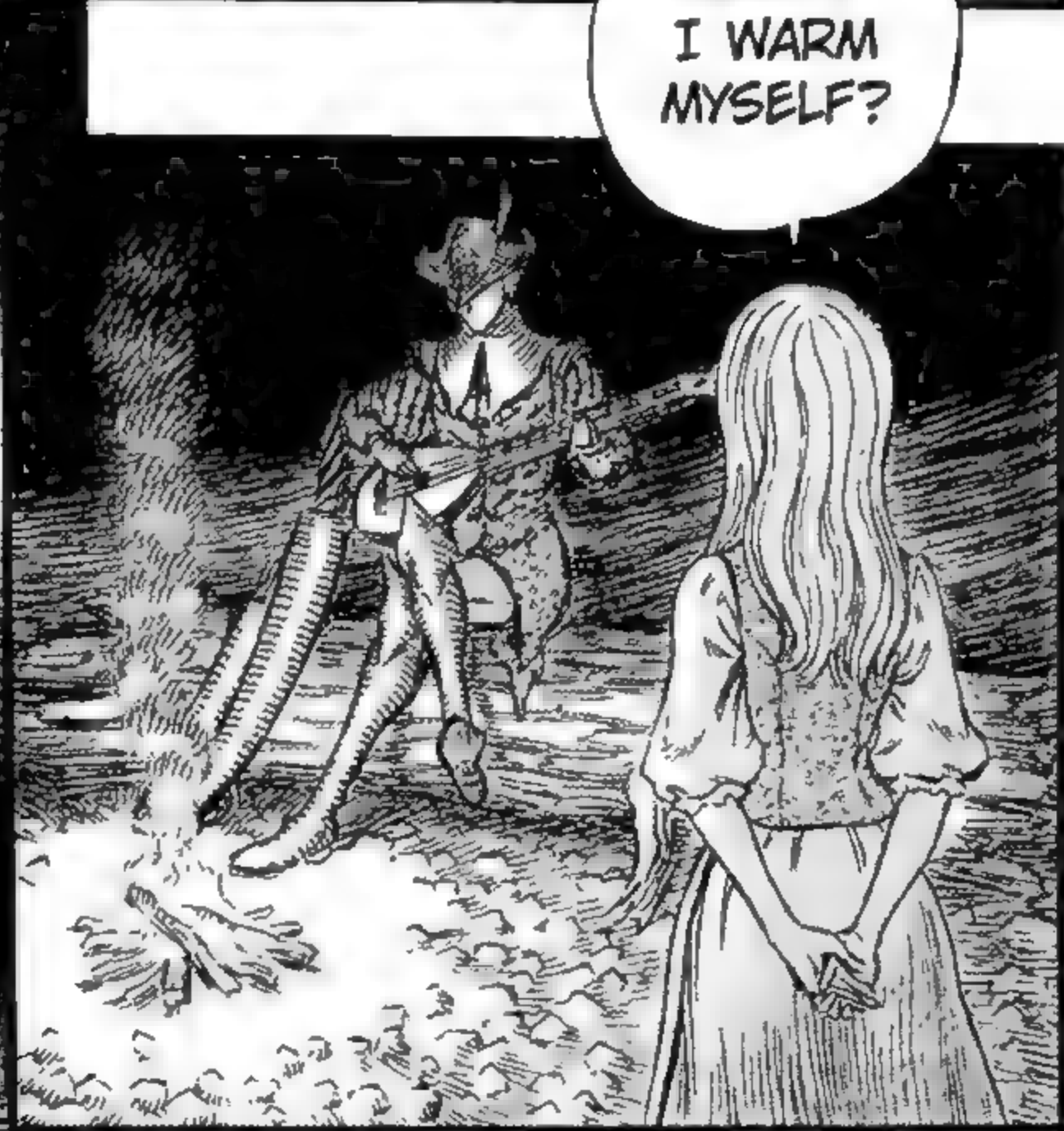


AS YOU WISH.



.....

GOOD EVENING.



MIND IF I WARM MYSELF?



.....



A LITTLE LONELY, THOUGH.

NICE SONG.

AREN'T
YOU
LONELY
?

YOU'RE
ALWAYS BY
YOURSELF.

I FEEL
CALMER
ALONE.

I'M A
HUNTER.

HM
MM
M...

I HUNT
ALONE.

THERE
ARE
THOSE
WHO ARE
OTHER-
WISE...

BUT
NOT
ME.

DO THEY
WALK ALONE
IN MOUN-
TAINS AND
FORESTS?

ARE
HUNTERS
ALWAYS
ALONE?



...I TOO...

BEFORE I KNOW IT...

...HAVE BECOME A BEAST.



*HO000

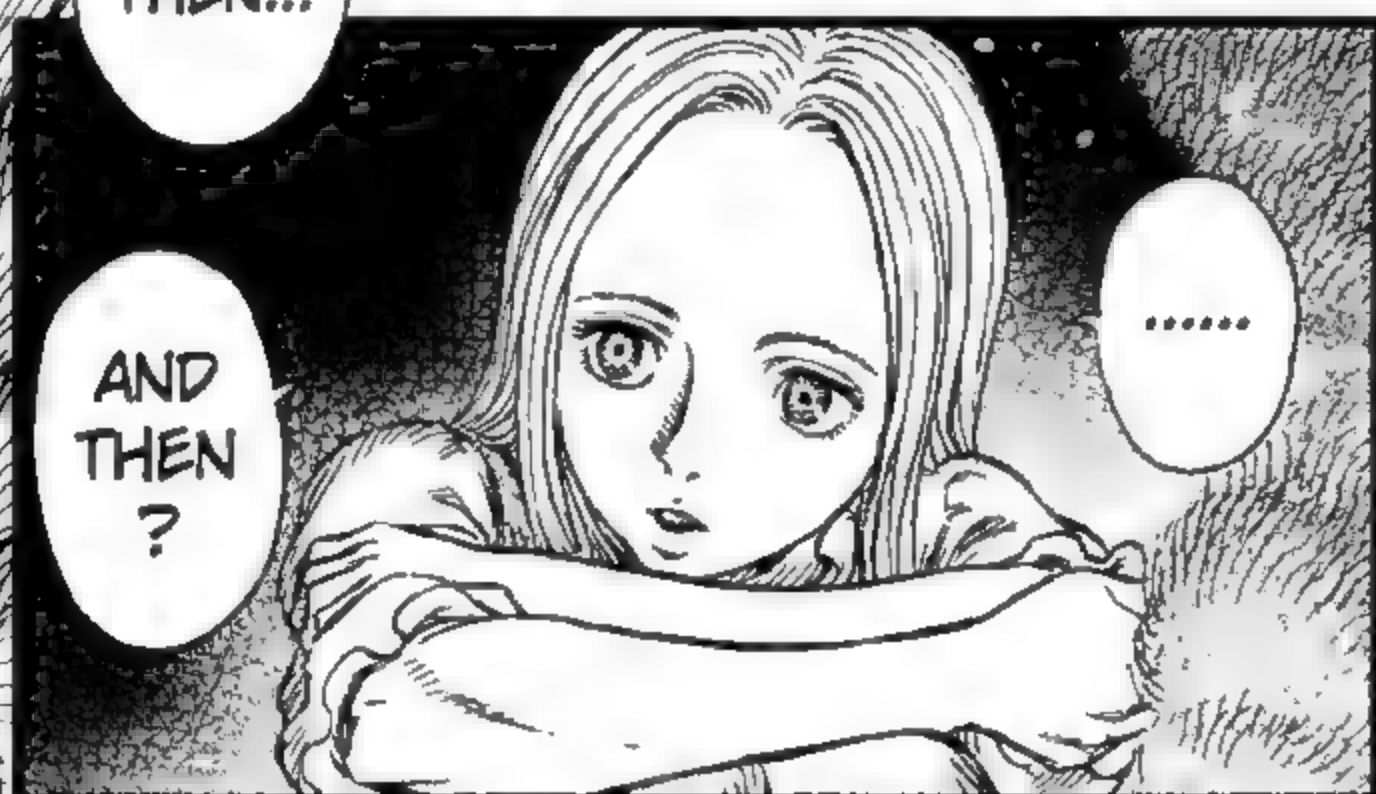
FOR DAYS I RUN THROUGH MOUNTAINS AND RIVERS, CHASING MY PREY.

...I LOSE TRACK OF TIME.

THROUGH SO MANY NIGHTS...

I LURK ALONE DEEP IN THE FOREST.

AND THEN...



AND THEN ?

.....



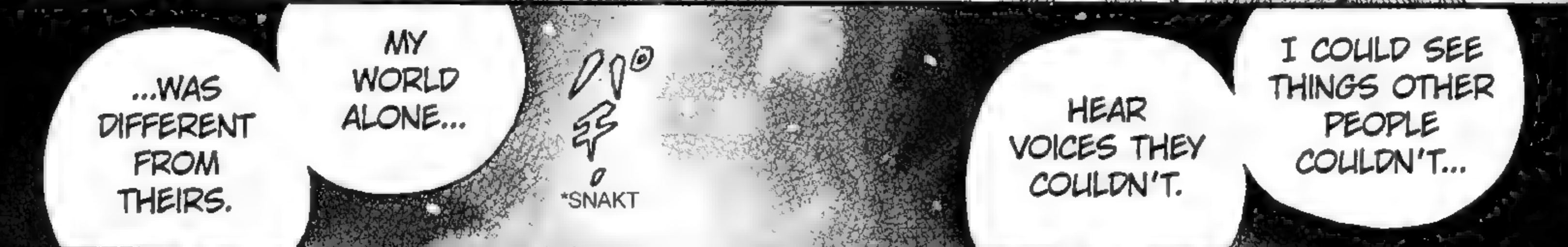
*ZSHHHSS



...ALONE, TOO.

I WAS...

YOU KNOW, I...



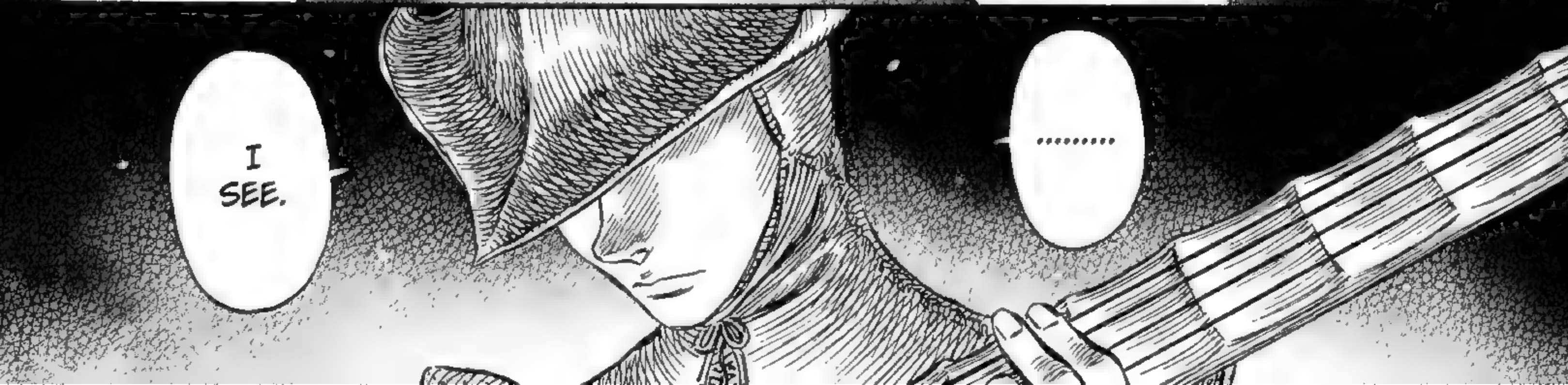
...WAS DIFFERENT FROM THEIRS.

MY WORLD ALONE...

*SNAKT

HEAR VOICES THEY COULDN'T.

I COULD SEE THINGS OTHER PEOPLE COULDN'T...



I SEE.

.....

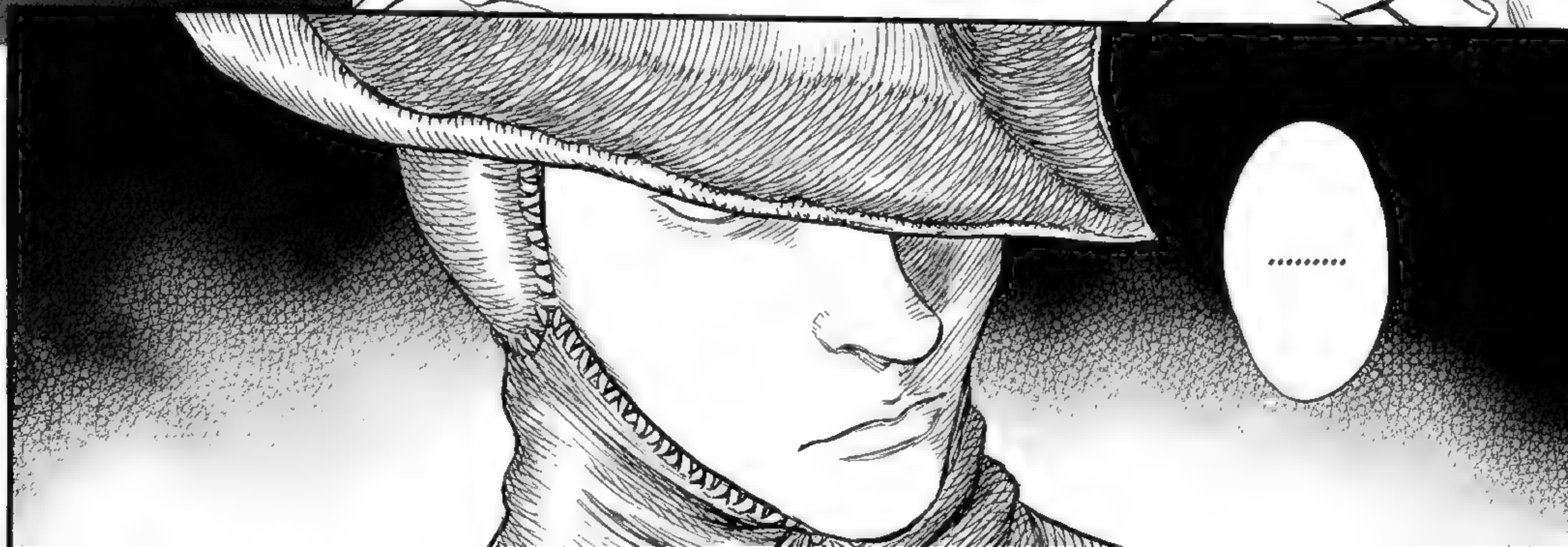


...WHO WAS
LONELY AND
ANXIOUS.

SHE
WASN'T
THE ONLY
ONE...



~~~~~  
Z

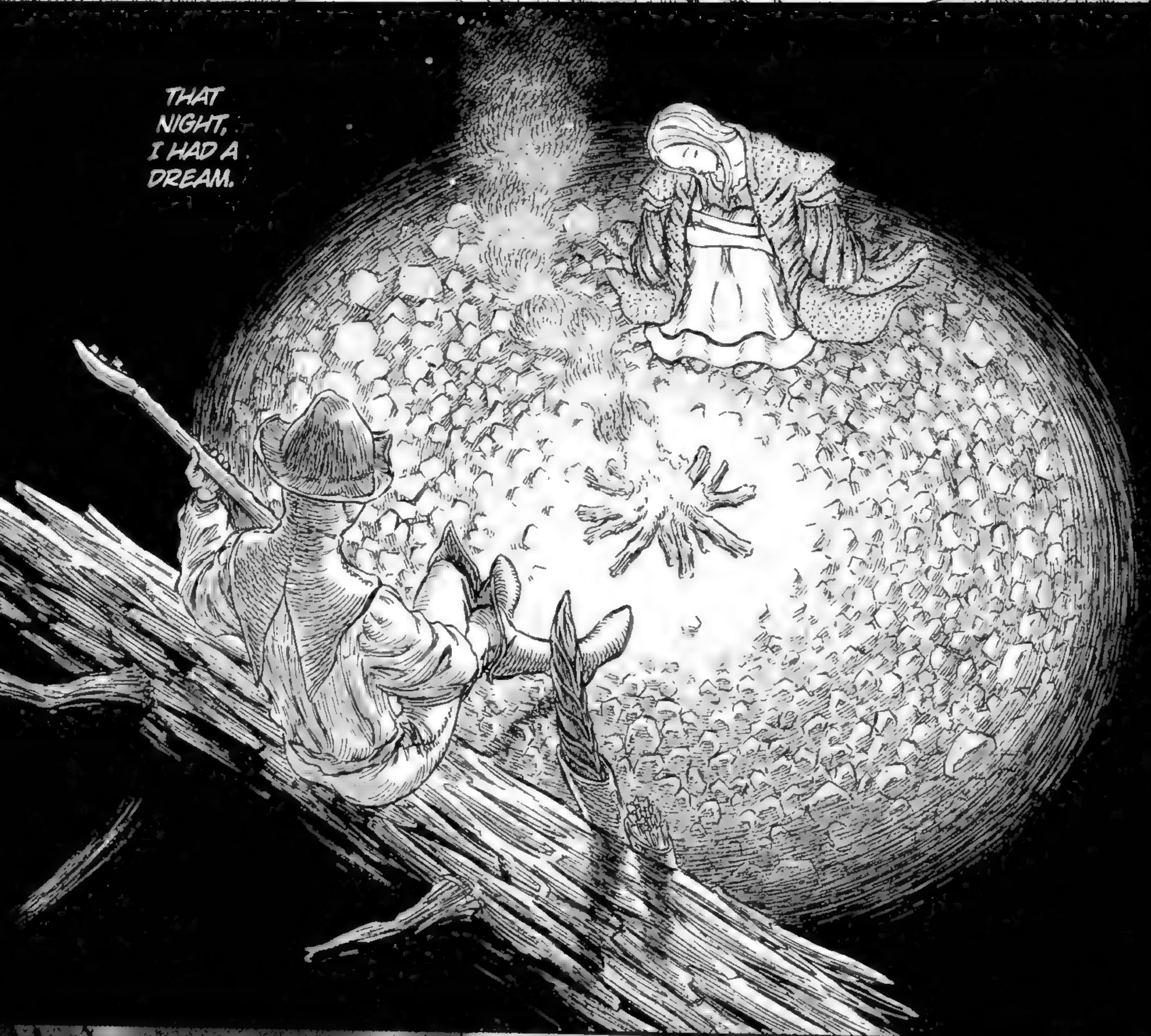


.....





THAT  
NIGHT,  
I HAD A  
DREAM.



...PLAYING  
IN A  
MOONLIT  
FOREST.



A DREAM  
OF A KITE  
AND AN  
OWL...







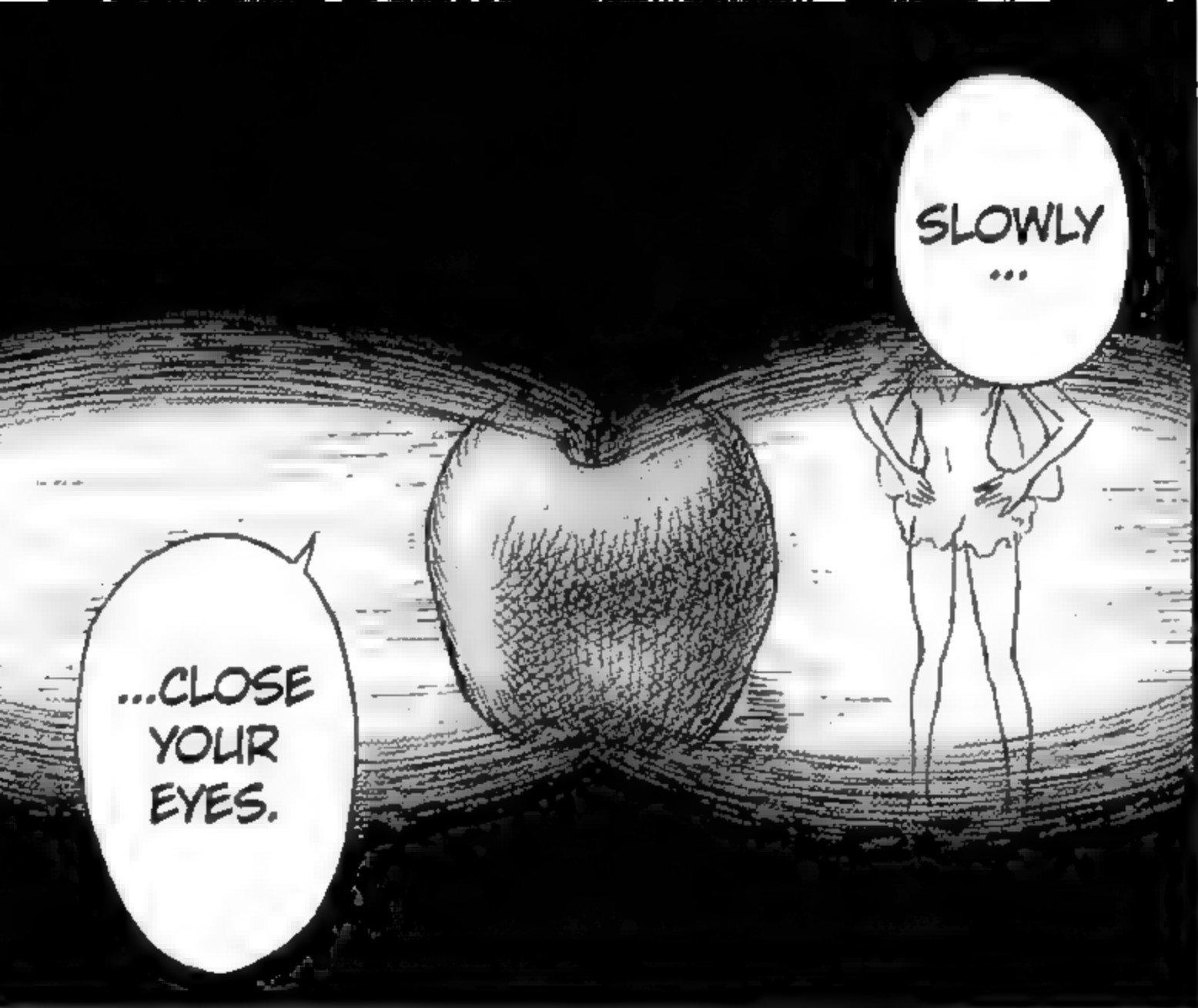
**BERSERK**



VANDIMION  
ヴァンディミオン

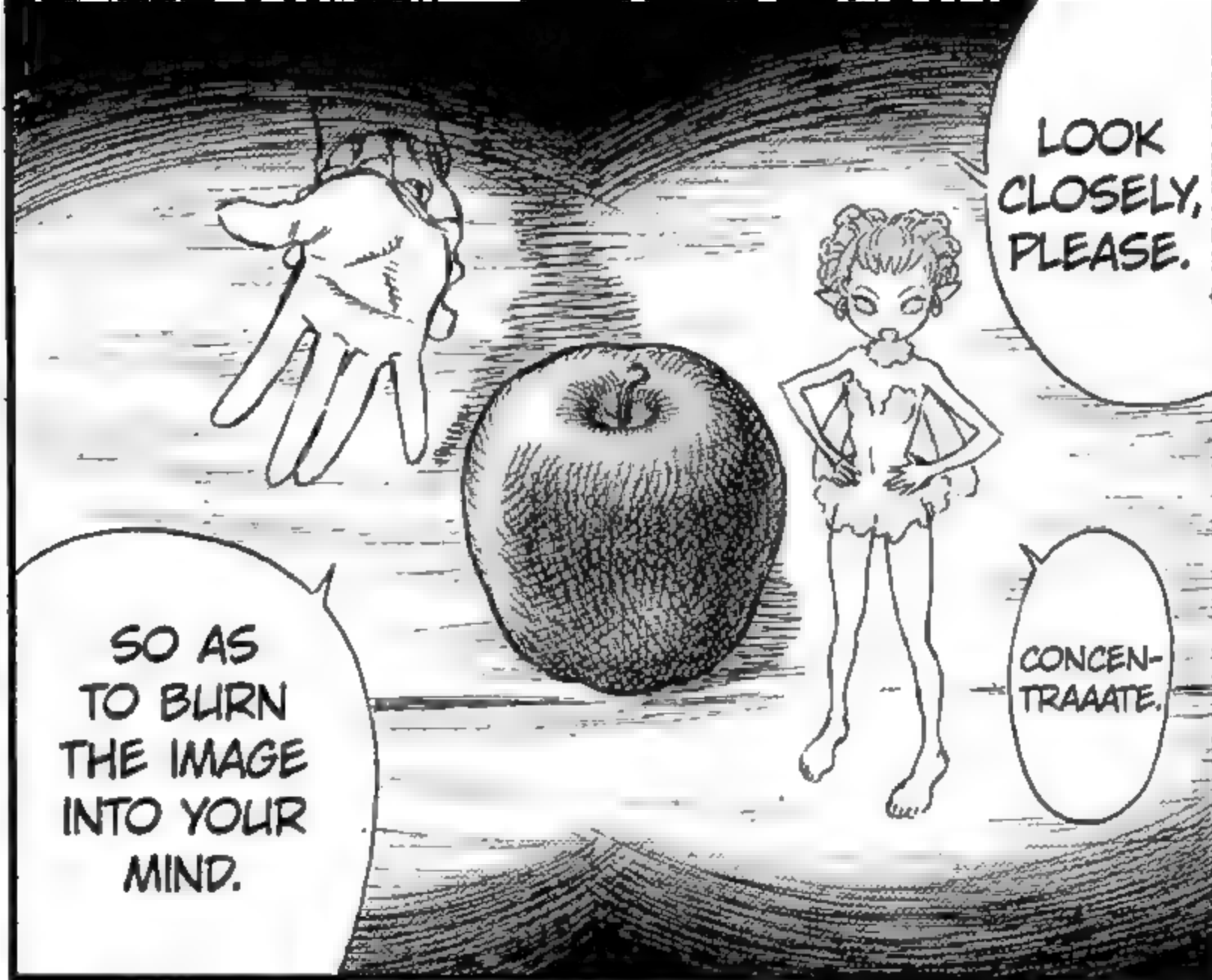
BERSERK





SLOWLY  
...

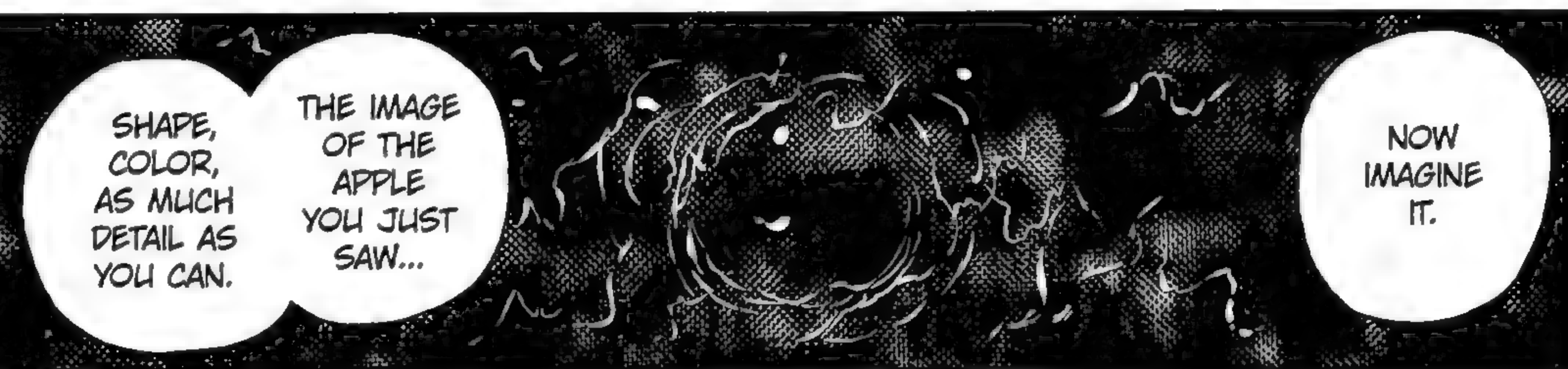
...CLOSE  
YOUR  
EYES.



LOOK  
CLOSELY,  
PLEASE.

SO AS  
TO BURN  
THE IMAGE  
INTO YOUR  
MIND.

CONCEN-  
TRAATE.



SHAPE,  
COLOR,  
AS MUCH  
DETAIL AS  
YOU CAN.

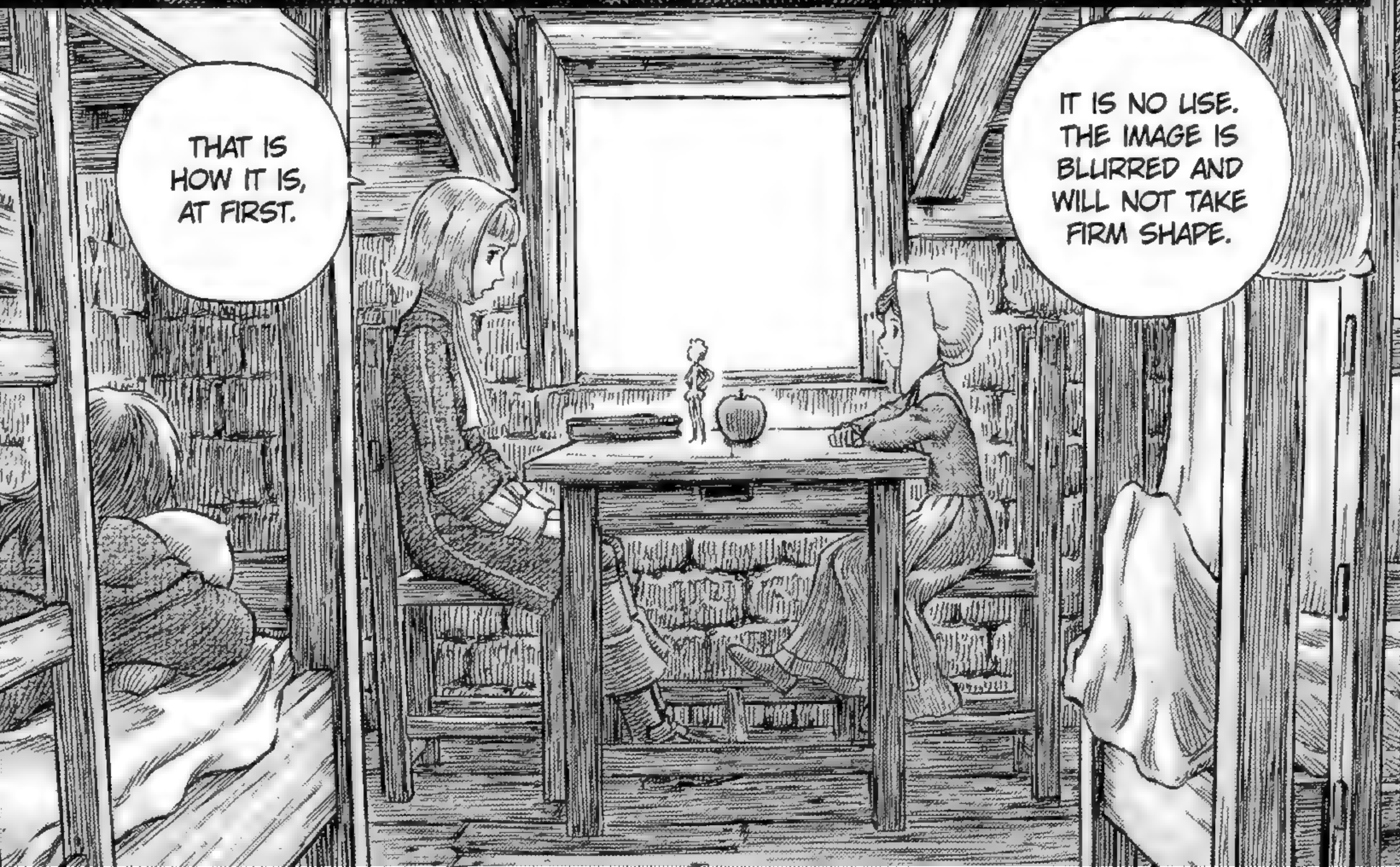
THE IMAGE  
OF THE  
APPLE  
YOU JUST  
SAW...

NOW  
IMAGINE  
IT.



...BUT  
SLOWLY.

NOT  
RUSHED...



THAT IS  
HOW IT IS,  
AT FIRST.

IT IS NO USE.  
THE IMAGE IS  
BLURRED AND  
WILL NOT TAKE  
FIRM SHAPE.



IT IS BASIC PRACTICE FOR "TANGIBLY IMAGINING A PHENOMENON WITHIN YOUR MIND."

THIS IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS BECOMING A MAGIC USER.



IT IS THE CHAINING OF IMAGES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THOSE THINGS THAT FIRST YIELDS EFFICACY.

MAGIC IS NOT ACCOMPLISHED MERELY BY RECITING A SPELL AND DRAWING SYMBOLS.

...IMAGIN-  
ING...

TANGIBLY  
...

THE  
TROLLS  
AND THE  
OGRE...

...AND  
THAT  
LIGHT,  
YES?

YOU HAVE  
ALREADY FELT  
A PORTION  
OF THAT,  
FARNESE.

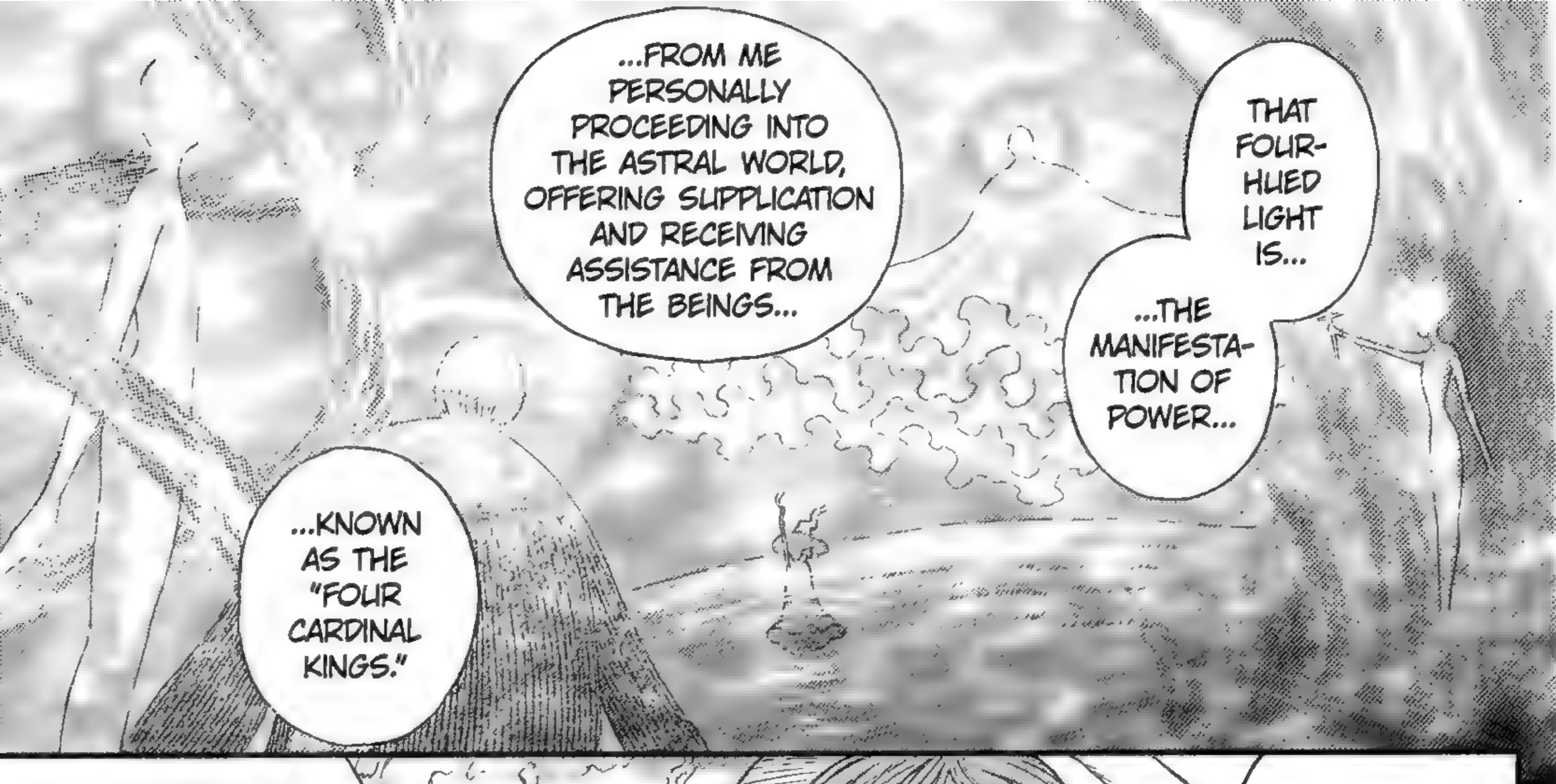
IT IS  
PRACTICED  
IN THE  
ASTRAL  
WORLD.

THE  
ESSENCE  
OF MAGIC  
IS THE  
WORLD OF  
THOUGHT.

I'M A  
PORTION.  
♡







...FROM ME  
PERSONALLY  
PROCEEDING INTO  
THE ASTRAL WORLD,  
OFFERING SUPPLICATION  
AND RECEIVING  
ASSISTANCE FROM  
THE BEINGS...

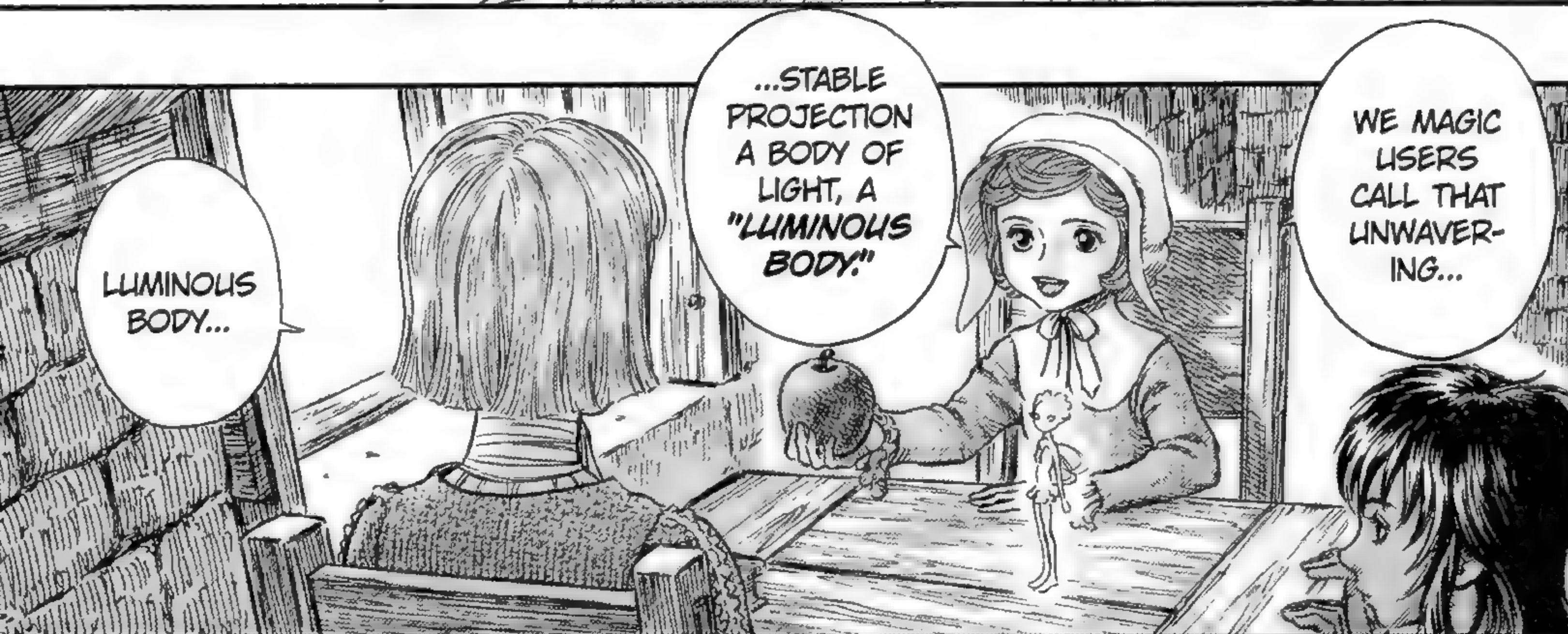
THAT  
FOUR-  
HUED  
LIGHT  
IS...

...THE  
MANIFESTA-  
TION OF  
POWER...

...KNOWN  
AS THE  
"FOUR  
CARDINAL  
KINGS."

TO ACCOMPLISH  
THINGS IN THE MIDST  
OF THAT, MORE THAN  
ANYTHING IT IS NECES-  
SARY TO MAKE YOUR  
MIND...YOUR *ETHEREAL  
BODY*...ADHERE FIRMLY  
AS A PROJECTION OF  
YOUR PHYSICAL BODY,  
SO AS NOT TO  
LOSE YOURSELF.

THE ASTRAL  
WORLD IS  
COMPRISED OF  
WILLS AND  
POWERS--  
MEMORIES AND  
PORTENTS IN  
VARIOUS  
DOMAINS.



LUMINOUS  
BODY...

...STABLE  
PROJECTION  
A BODY OF  
LIGHT, A  
"*LUMINOUS  
BODY*."

WE MAGIC  
USERS  
CALL THAT  
UNWAVER-  
ING...

PERSISTENT  
PRACTICE IS  
SURE TO  
BEAR FRUIT.

PLEASE  
DO YOUR  
BEST.

THAT APPLE  
IS YOUR  
FIRST STEP  
IN OBTAINING  
YOUR  
LUMINOUS  
BODY,  
FARNESE.





\*SNATCH  
1/10

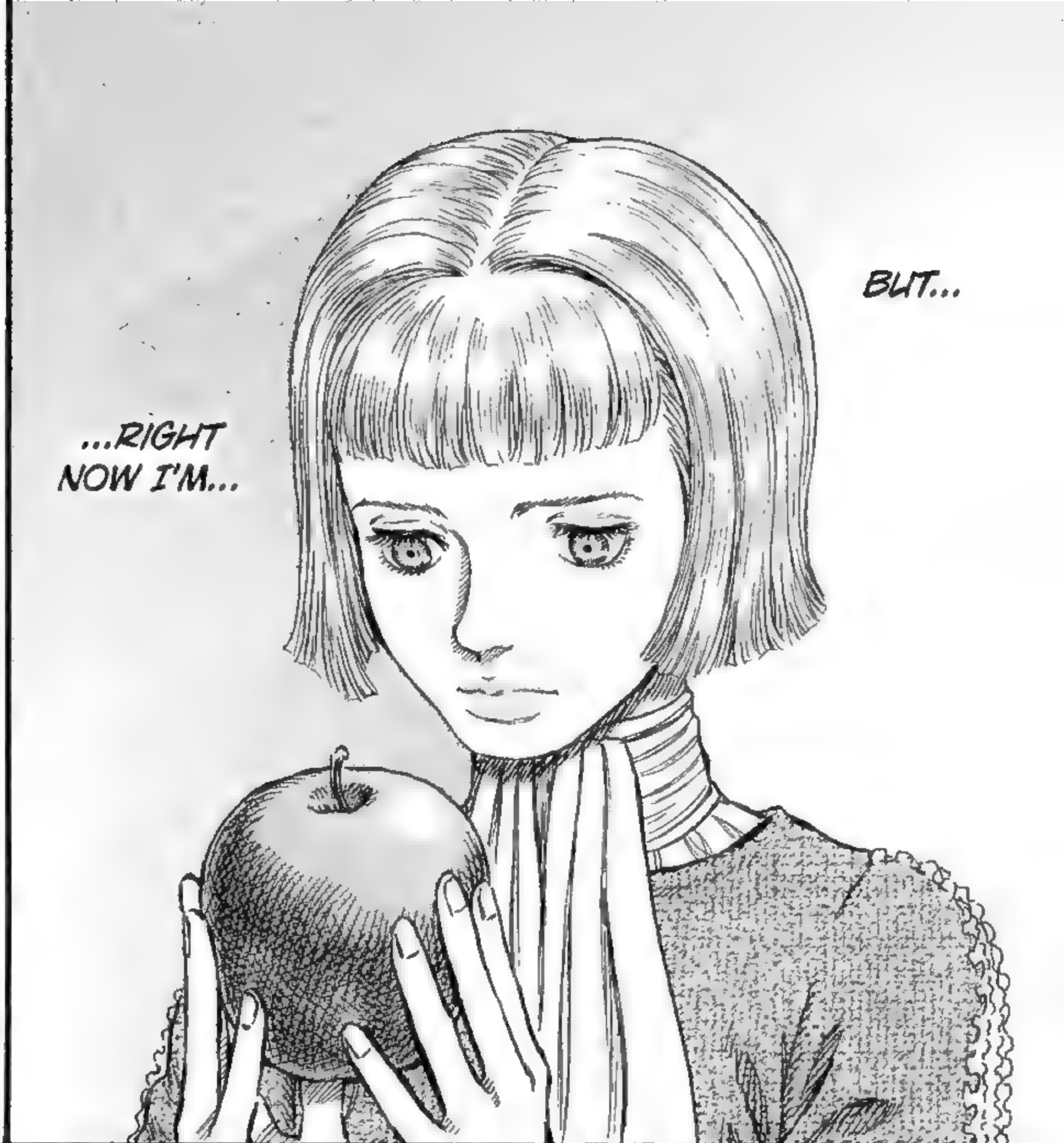
\*FX: SHOMP SHOMP SHOMP



しゅ

しゅ

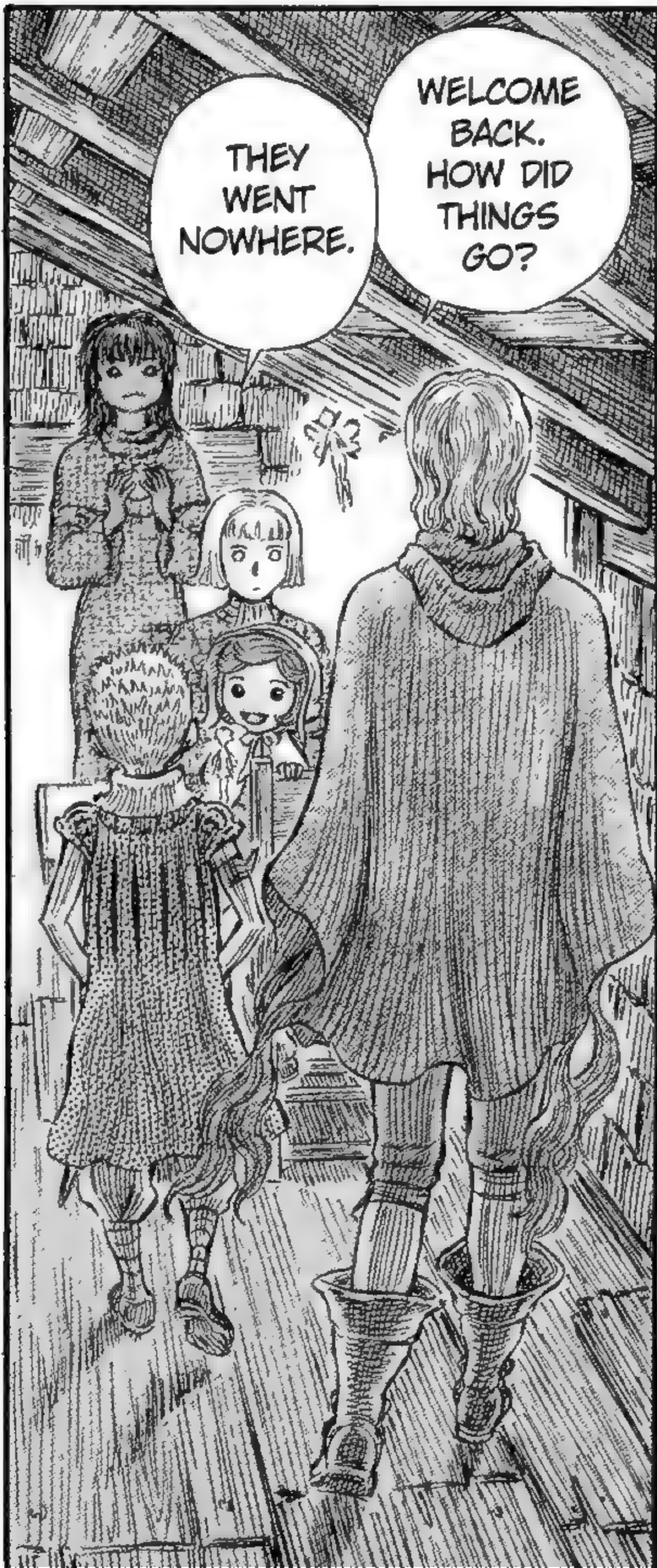
AHH...



BUT...

...RIGHT  
NOW I'M...

\*FX: GREE GREE



THEY  
WENT  
NOWHERE.

WELCOME  
BACK.  
HOW DID  
THINGS  
GO?



THAT  
WAS SURE  
A VAIN  
EFFORT.

AHHH  
MAN,  
FORGET IT.  
NOT A  
SINGLE  
BITE.





WE  
OVERESTI-  
MATED OUR  
PROSPECTS.

...BUT EVERY SHIP HAS  
BEEN COMMANDEERED  
AS A WARSHIP OR HAS  
ACCEPTED MILITARY-  
RELATED COMMISSIONS.  
THEY CURTLY...WELL,  
ALL OF THEM TURNED  
US AWAY WITHOUT  
NEGOTIATION.

WE TRIED  
EVERY  
MARITIME  
TRADING  
FIRM, AND  
EVEN A  
PRIVATE SHIP  
CAPTAIN IN  
THE CITY...

WE  
WALKED  
OUR LEGS  
OFF ALL DAY  
IN THAT  
CROWD.



...BUT IT  
LOOKS LIKE THIS  
IS DIFFERENT  
FROM HOW OUR  
JOURNEY'S BEEN  
LEFT TO CHANCE  
SO FAR.

I ASSUMED  
SOMETHING'D  
WORK OUT  
SO LONG AS  
WE REACHED  
A PORT...



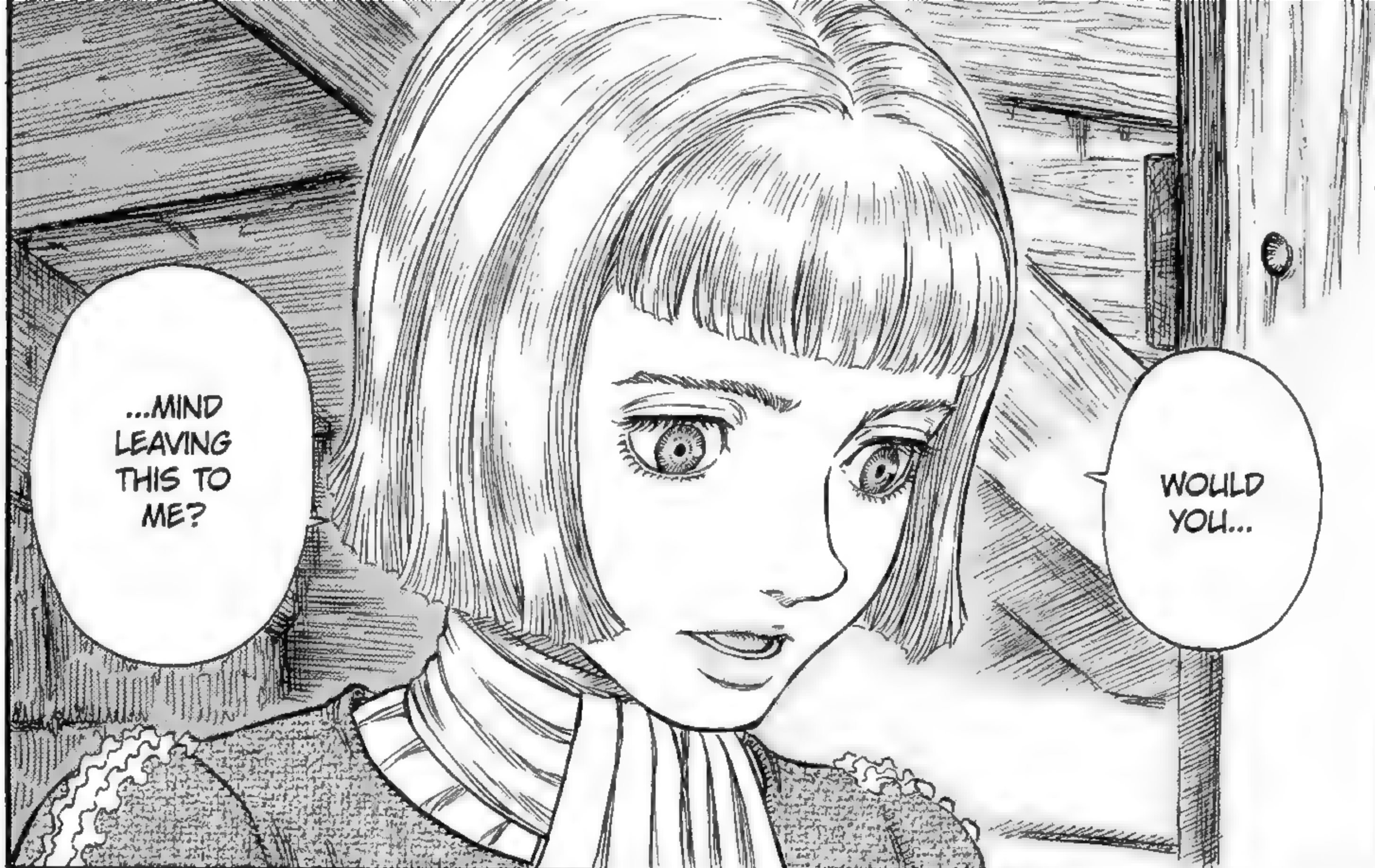
ALL  
SET  
TO GO,  
EH?

UM...

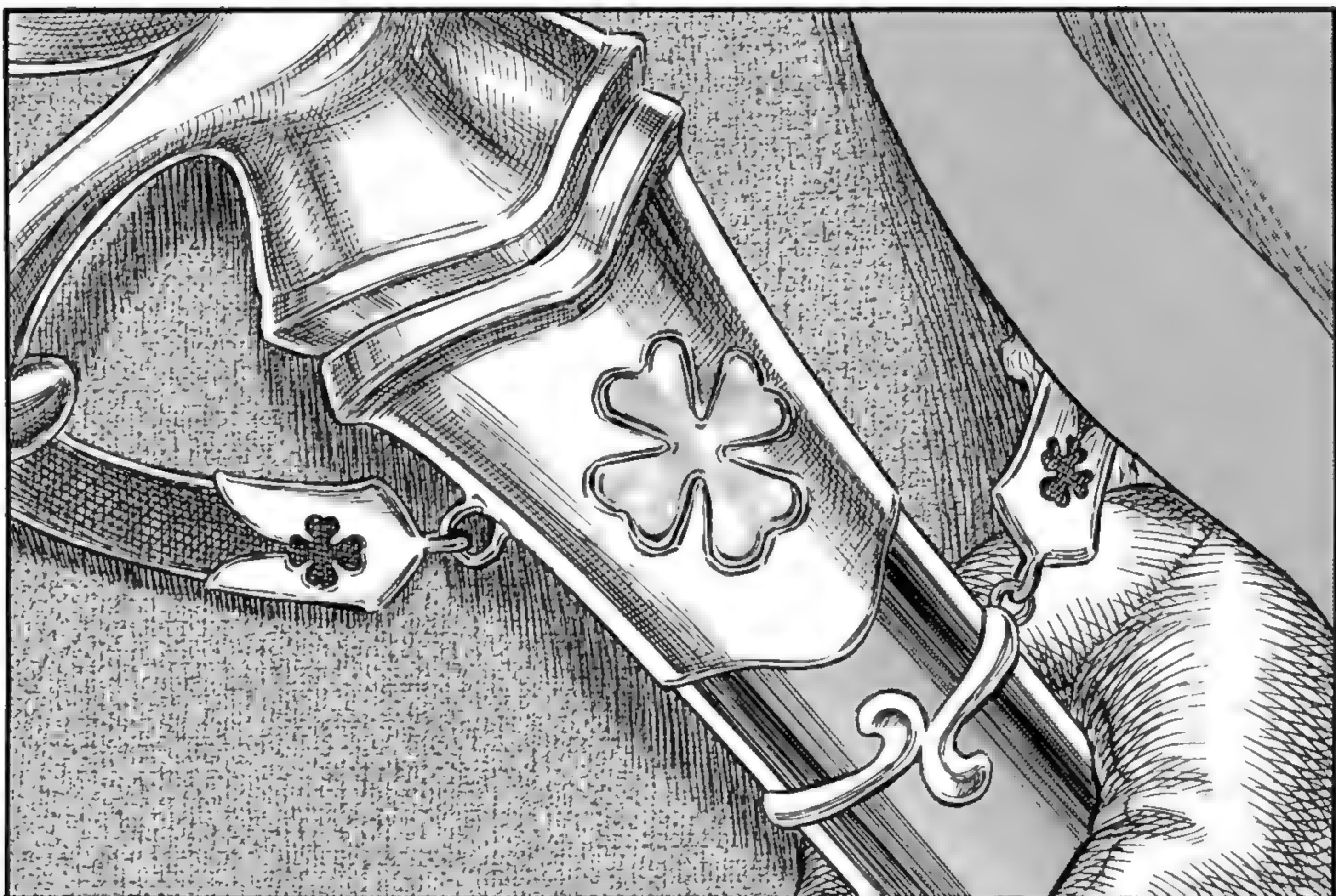
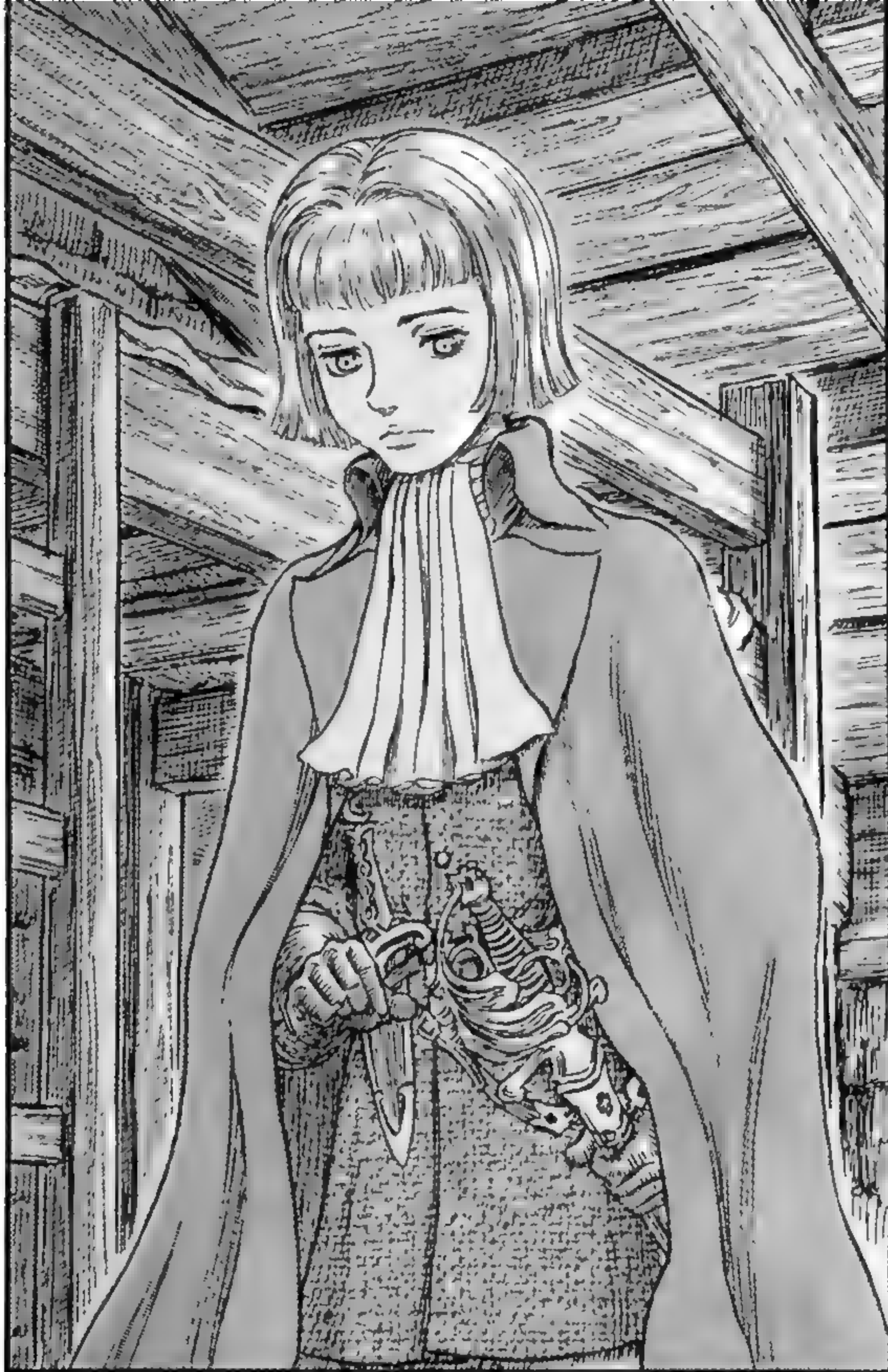
AGAIN,  
SUCH  
NASTI-  
NESS.

GUESS  
NOW WE'LL  
JUST  
HAVE TO  
PLUNDER  
SOME  
SHIP...

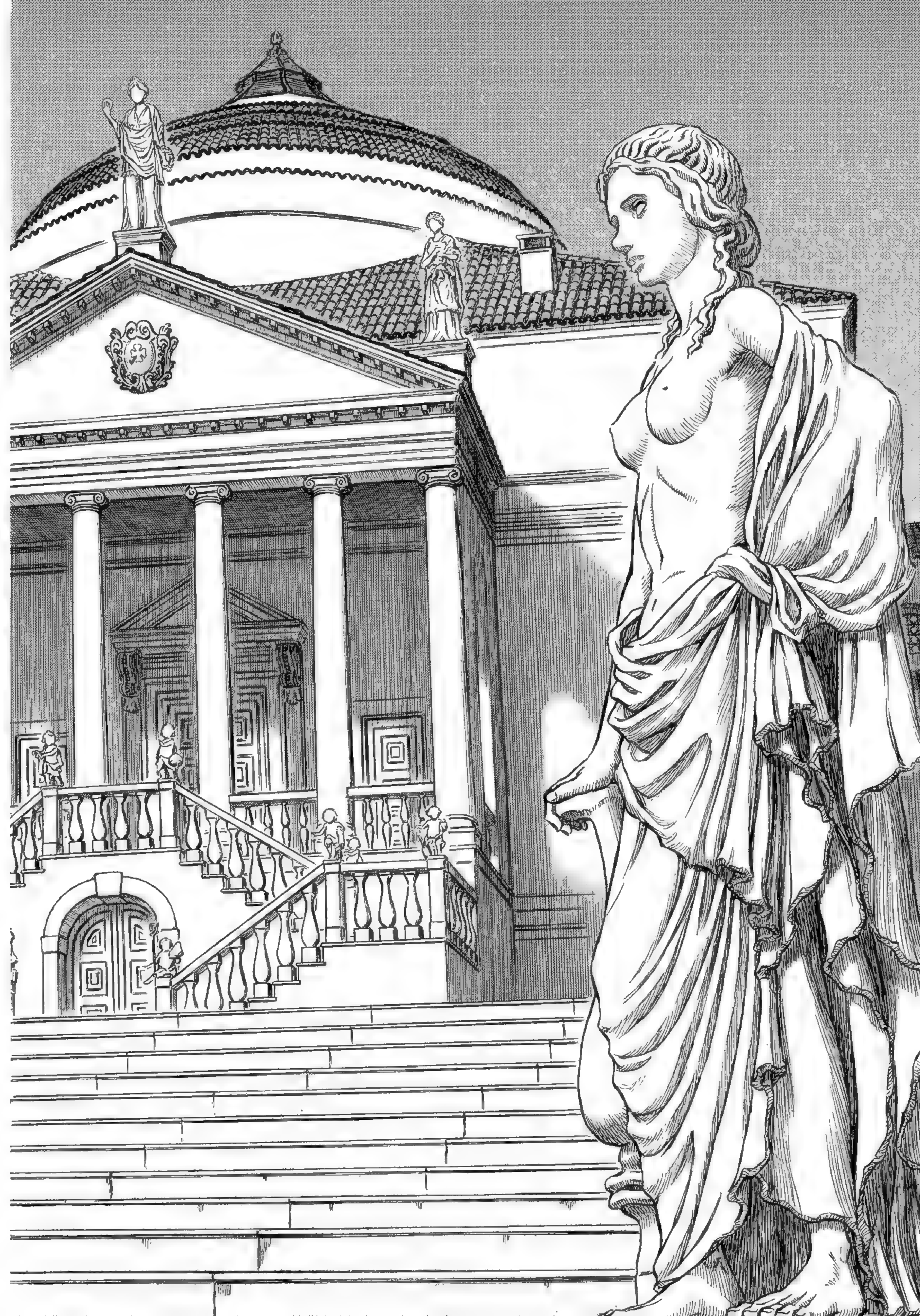
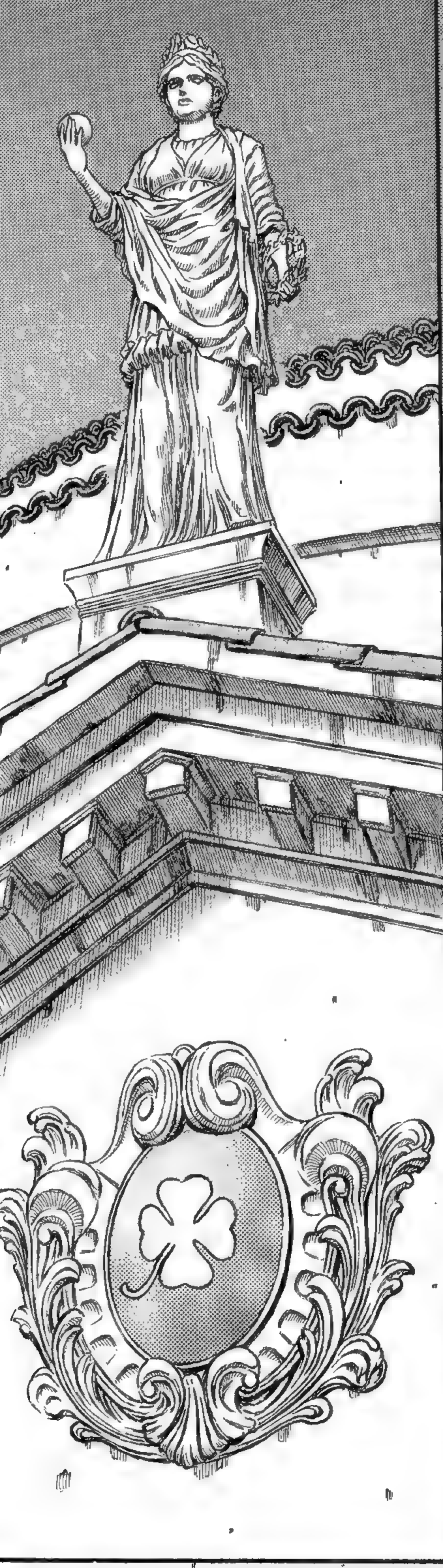












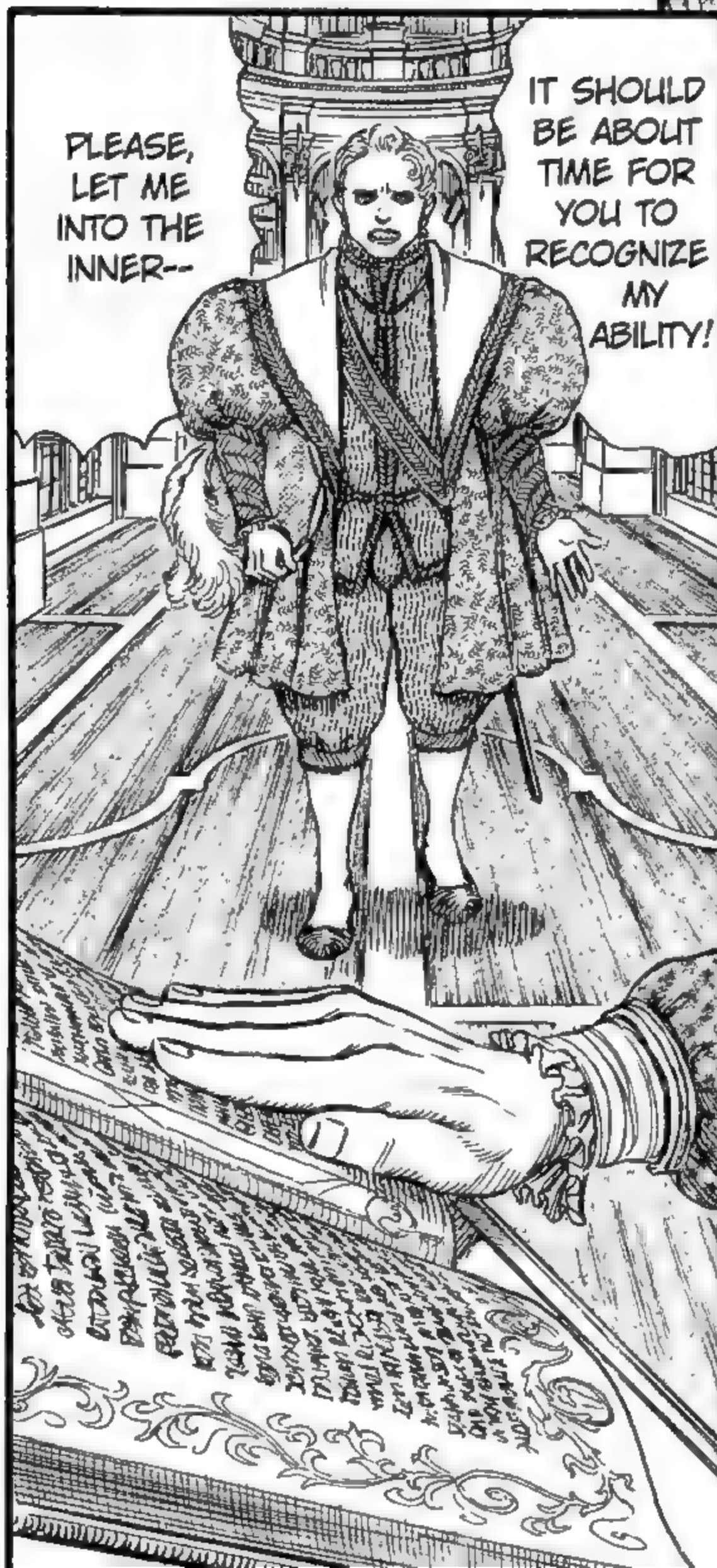


I HAVE *TRIED* TO DO AS I WAS TOLD! I'VE STABILIZED THE BANKING OPERATIONS OF THE BRAJIE BRANCH THESE THREE YEARS! MY BRANCH ALSO SINGLE-HANDEDLY MANAGES THE BUYING OF PELTS, LINEN, TIN, AND LEAD FOR THE ENTIRE NORTHERN REGION!

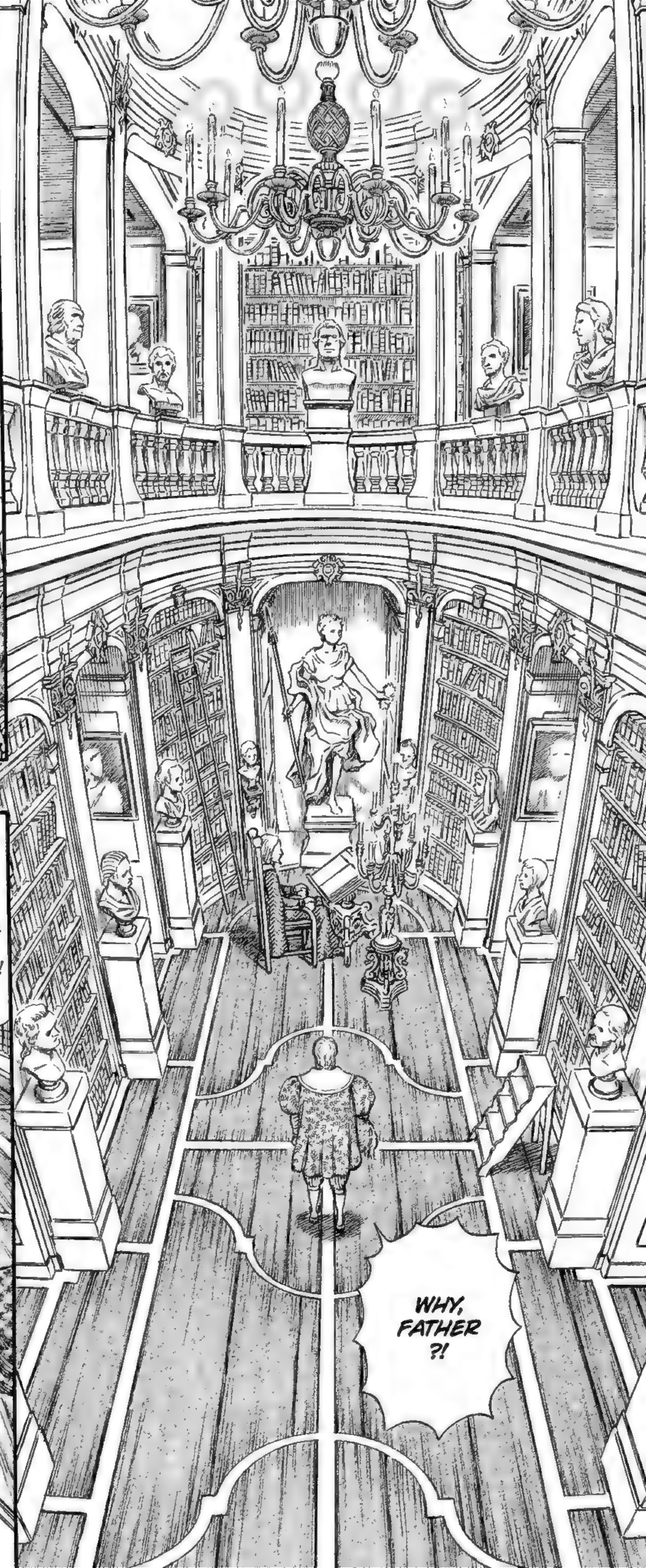


PLEASE, LET ME INTO THE INNER--

IT SHOULD BE ABOUT TIME FOR YOU TO RECOGNIZE MY ABILITY!



WHY, FATHER ?!







YOU'VE DONE  
**NOTHING**  
MORE THAN  
WALK UPON  
THE ROAD  
I'VE PAVED.

ABILITY?

MANIFICO.



...SO WHY  
SHOULD I  
NOT--

...AND TO  
MY BROTHER  
**POLIZIANO** YOU  
GAVE THE GRAND  
GOVERNOR-  
GENERALSHIP  
OF THE REALM  
OF THE HOLY  
SEE...

TO MY BROTHER  
**GIORGIO** YOU GAVE  
THE POSITIONS OF  
GENERAL FINANCIAL  
MANAGER OF  
THE HOLY SEE'S  
ACCOUNTING OFFICE  
AND JOINT MANAGER  
OF THE VANDIMION  
BANK...

WHY IS  
IT...?

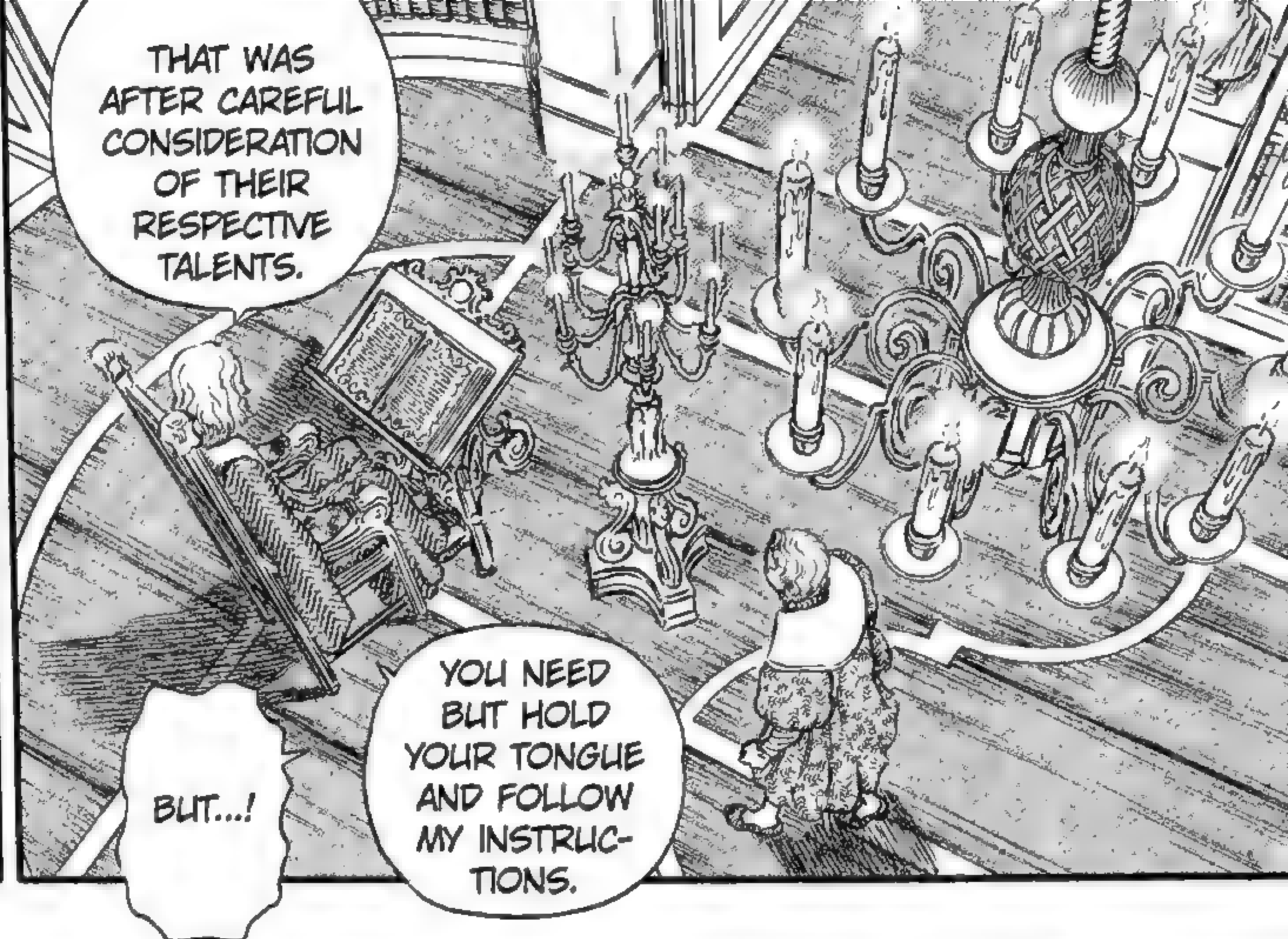






LEAVE ME.

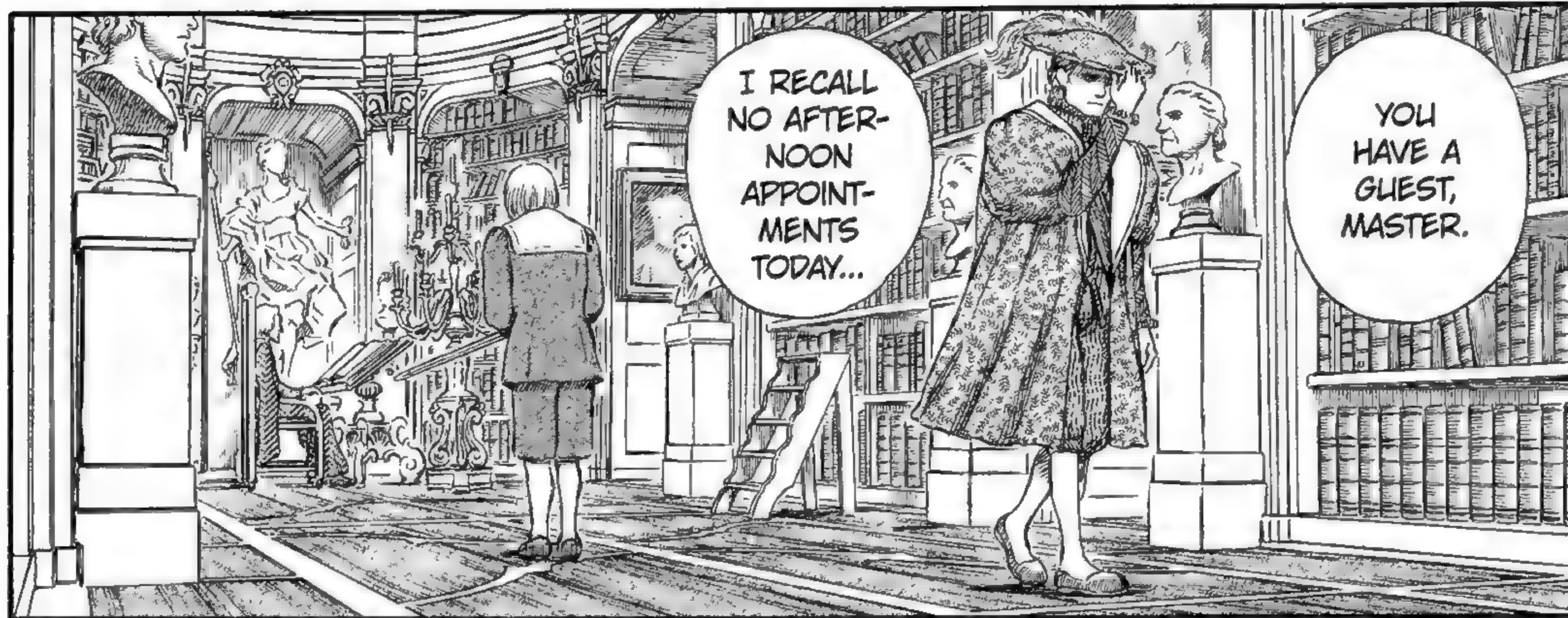
... ENOUGH.



THAT WAS AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE TALENTS.

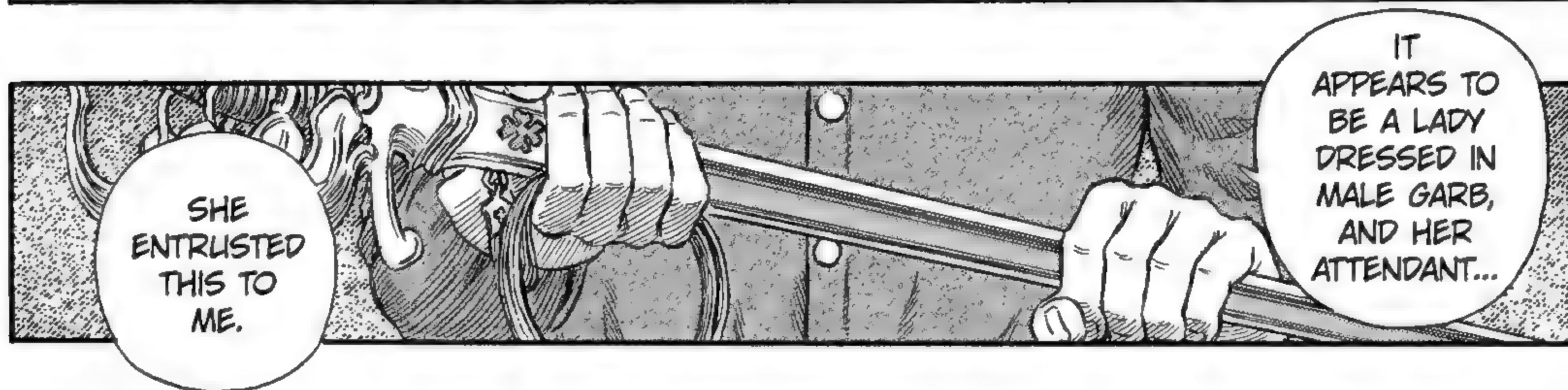
BUT...!

YOU NEED BUT HOLD YOUR TONGUE AND FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS.



I RECALL NO AFTER-NOON APPOINTMENTS TODAY...

YOU HAVE A GUEST, MASTER.

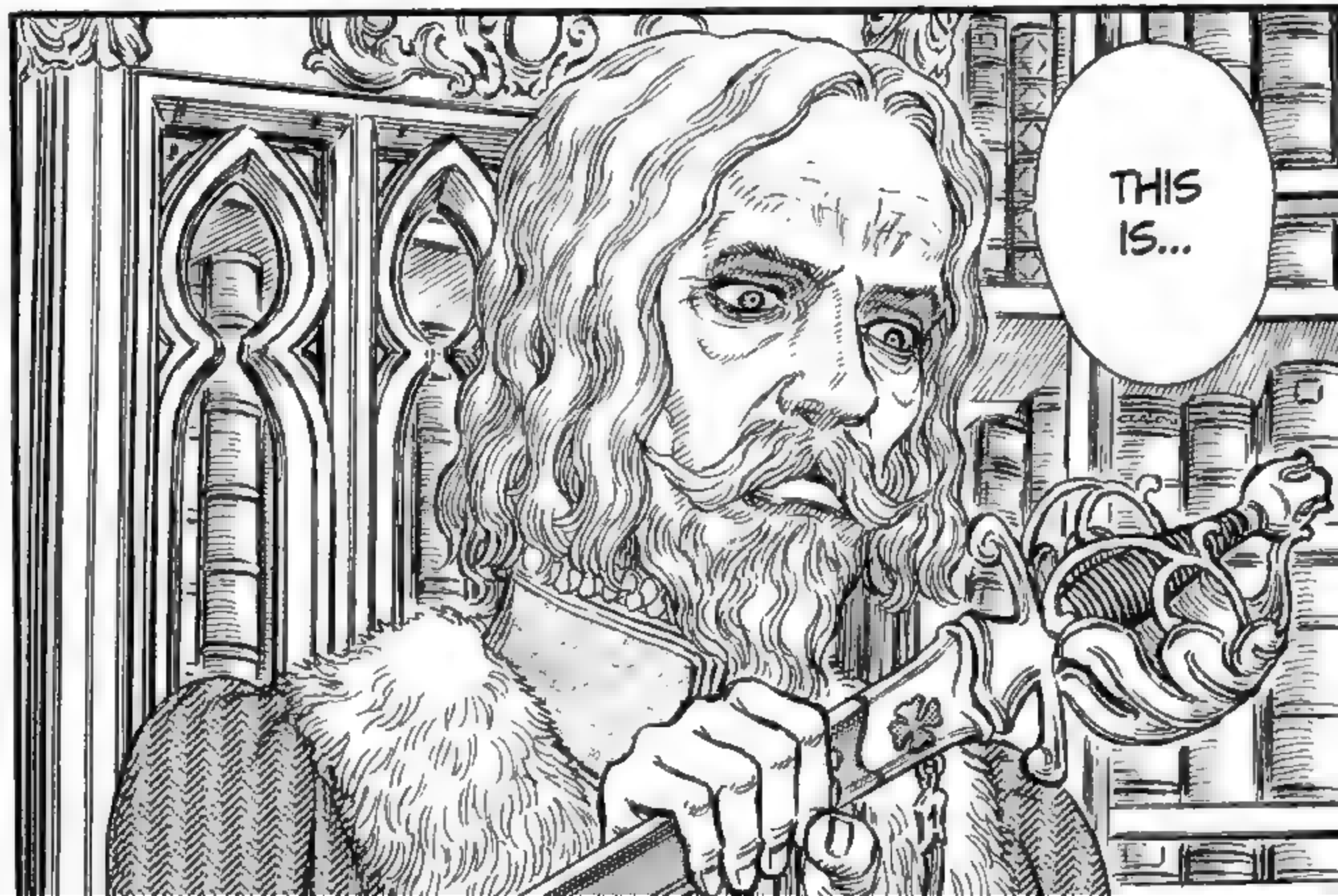


SHE ENTRUSTED THIS TO ME.

IT APPEARS TO BE A LADY DRESSED IN MALE GARB, AND HER ATTENDANT...



THE LADY GIVES HER NAME AS FARNESE DO VANDIMION.

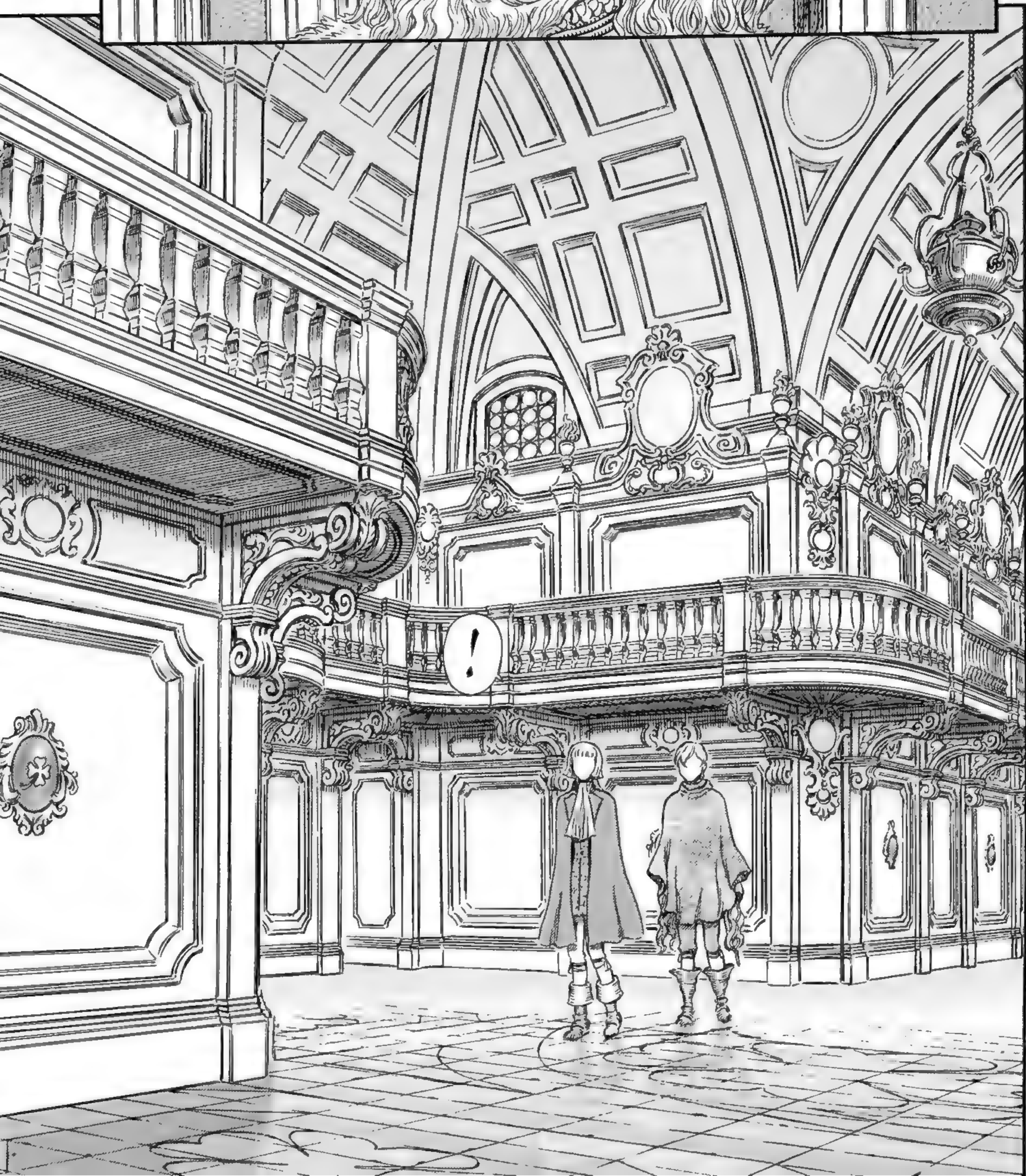


THIS IS...

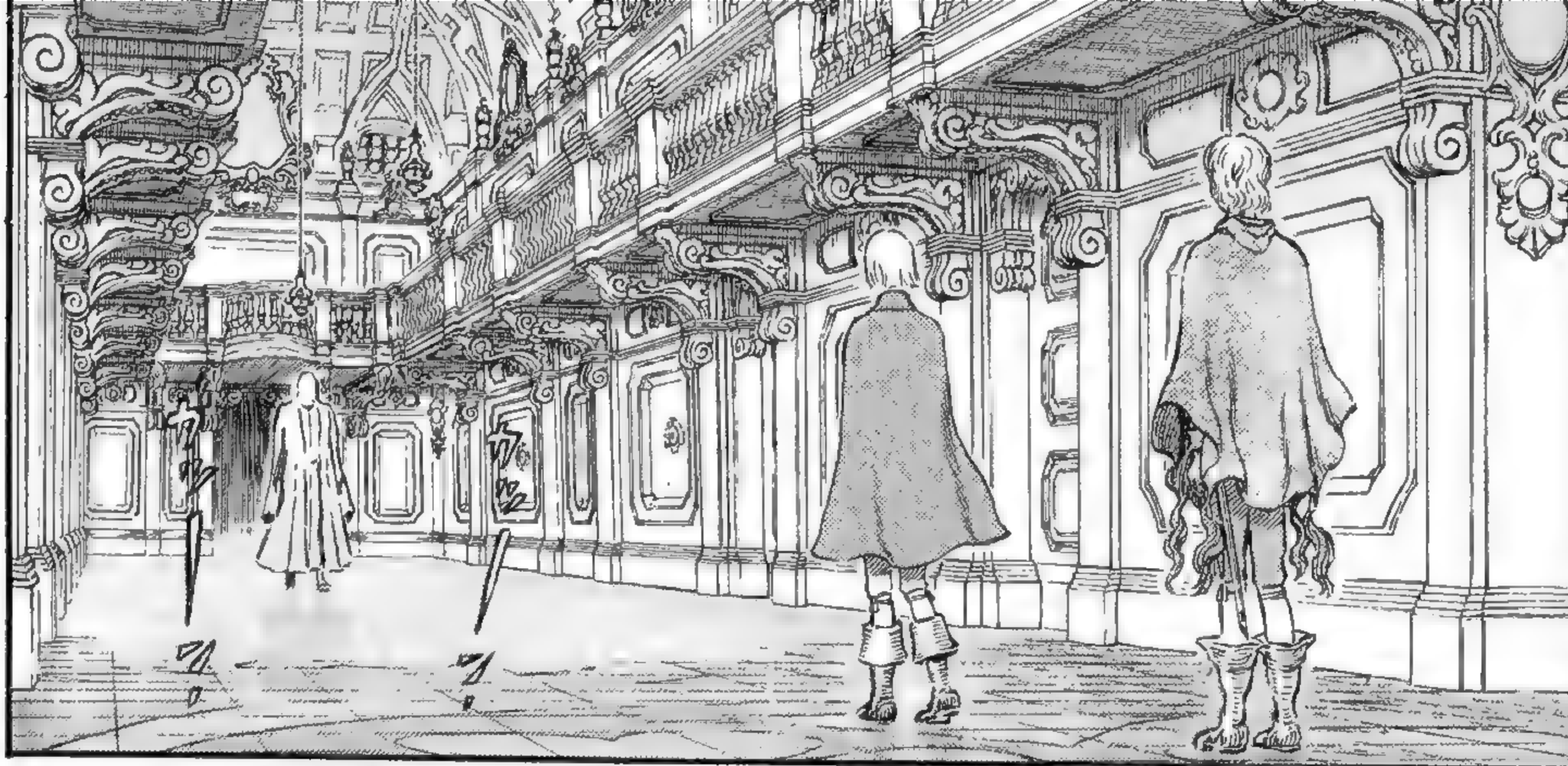


WHAT?

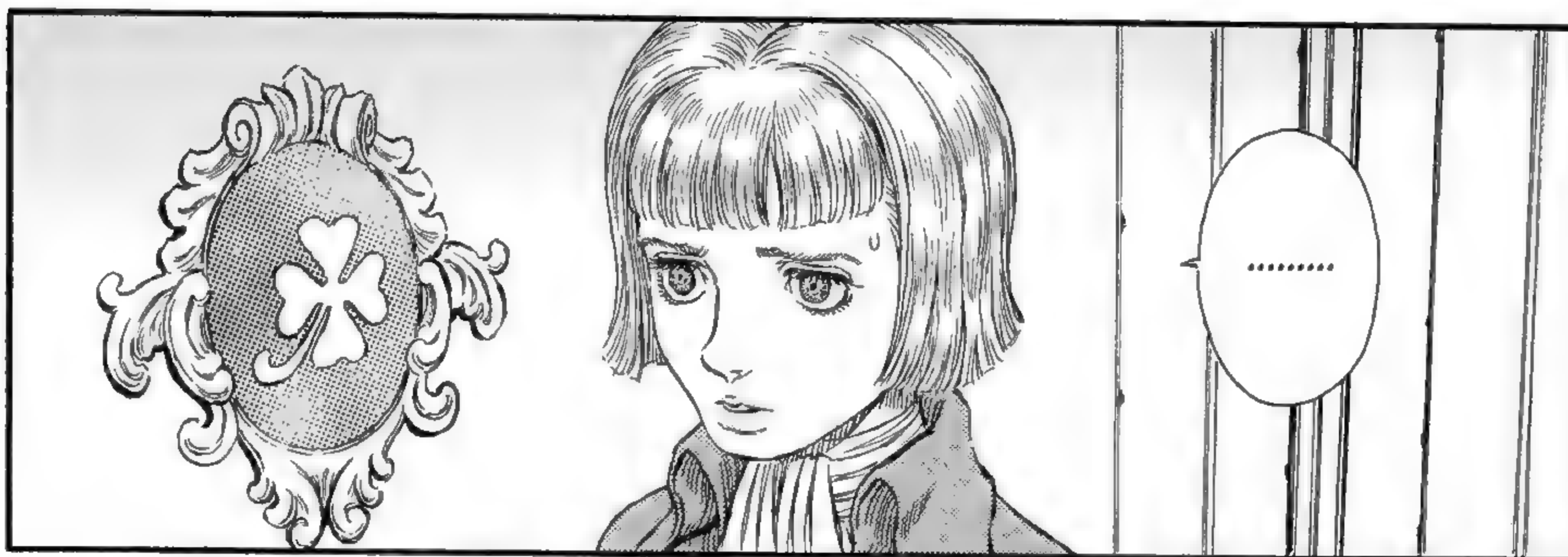
.....



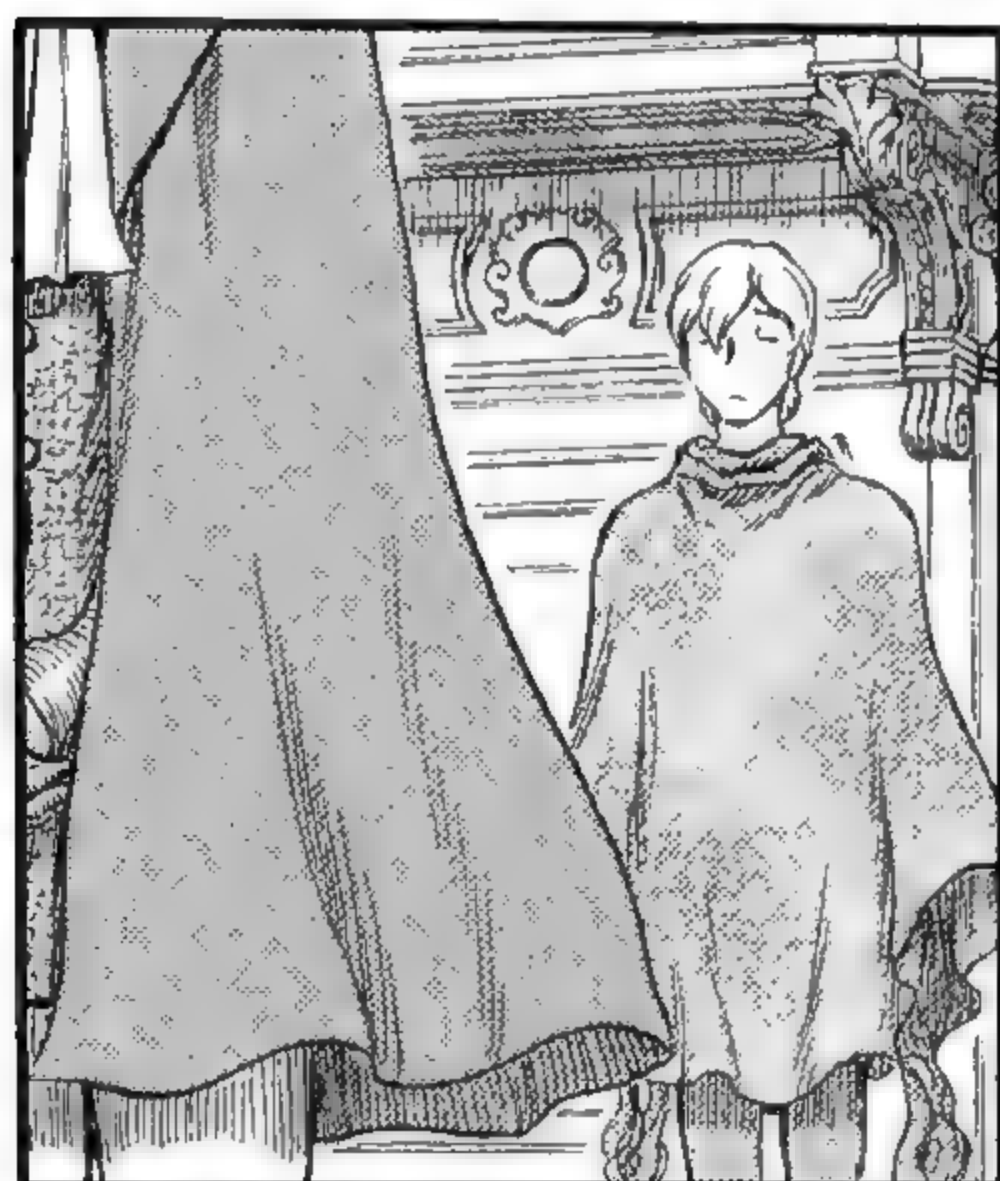




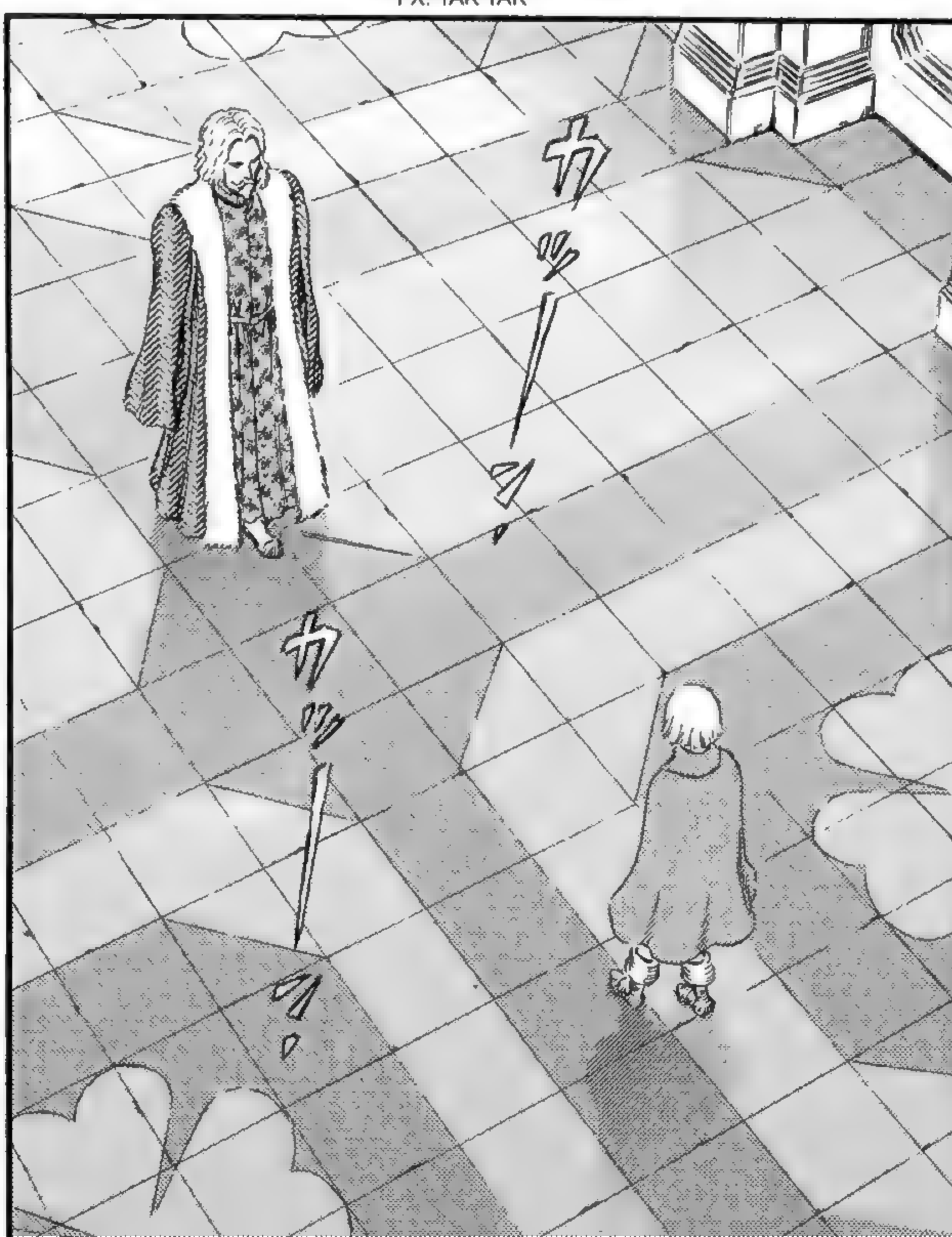
\*FX: TAK TAK



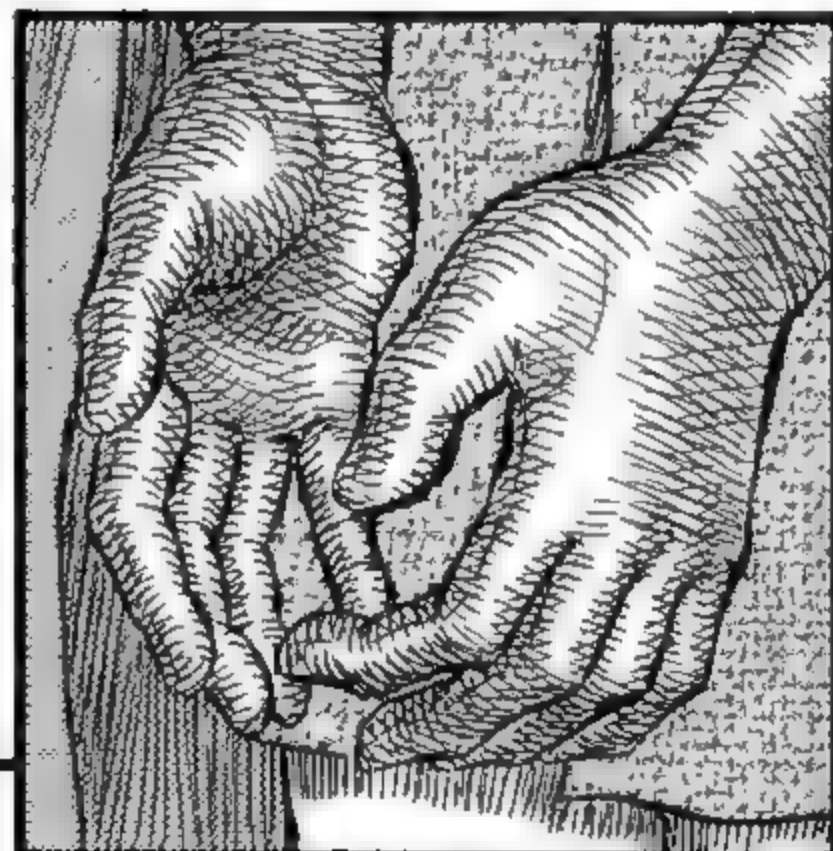
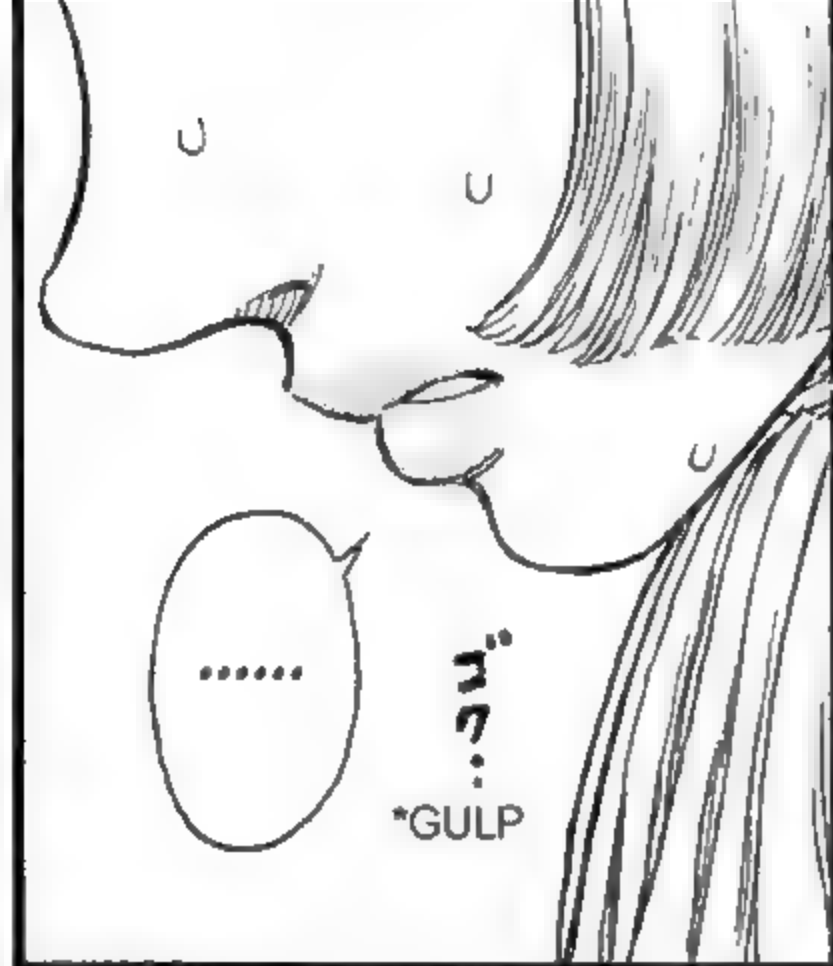
\*FX: TAK TAK



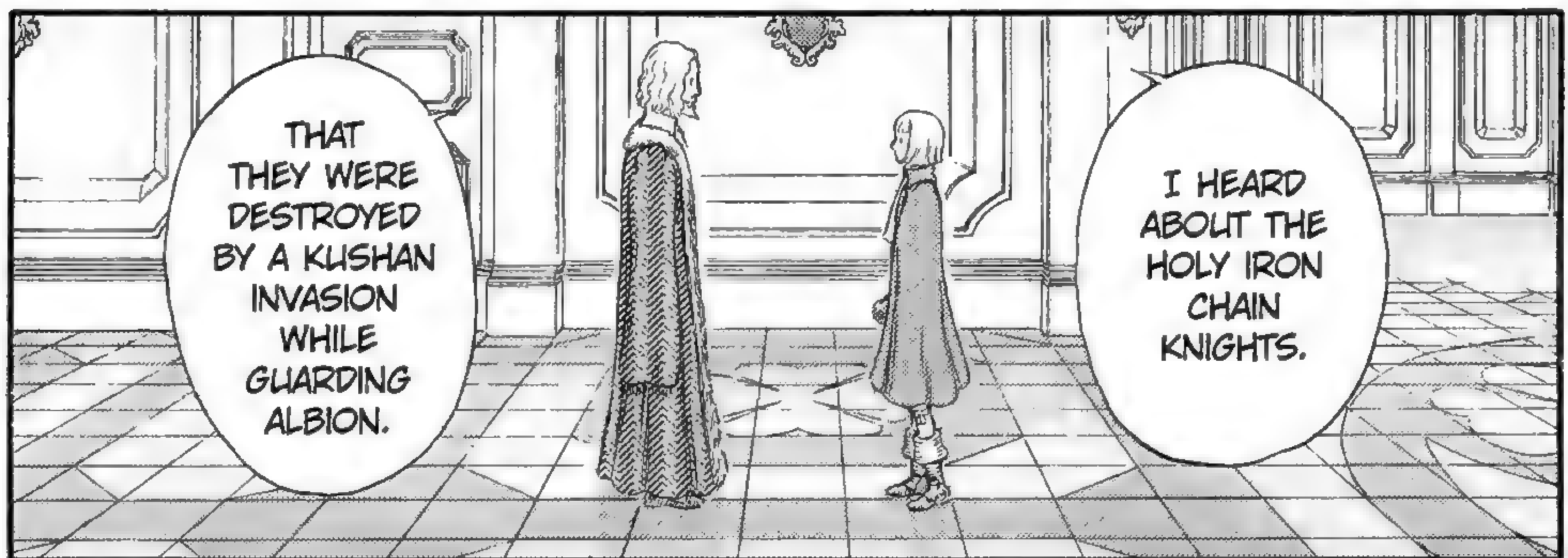
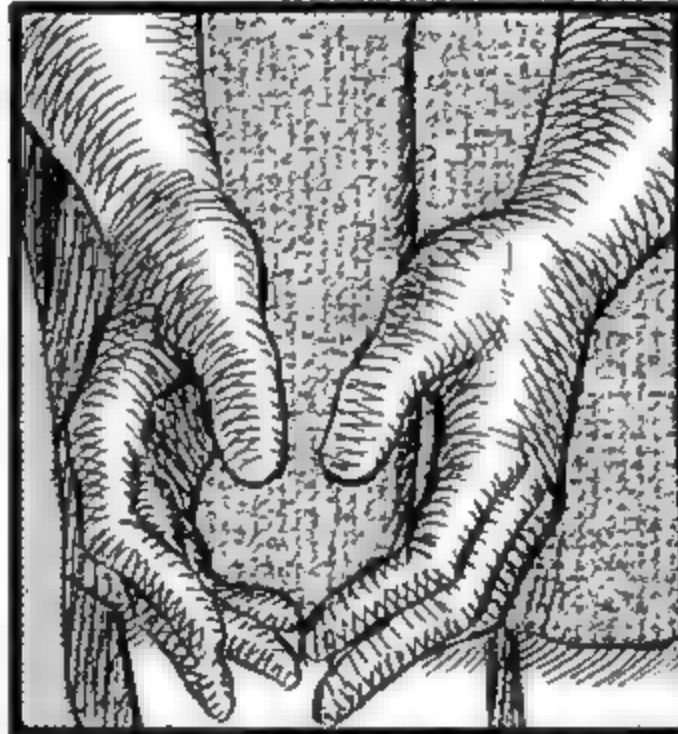
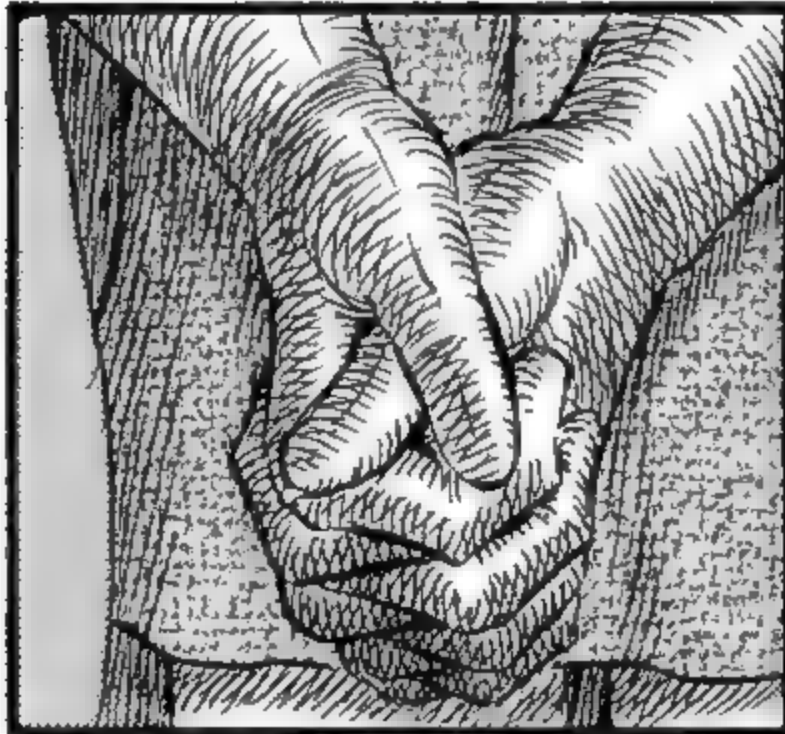
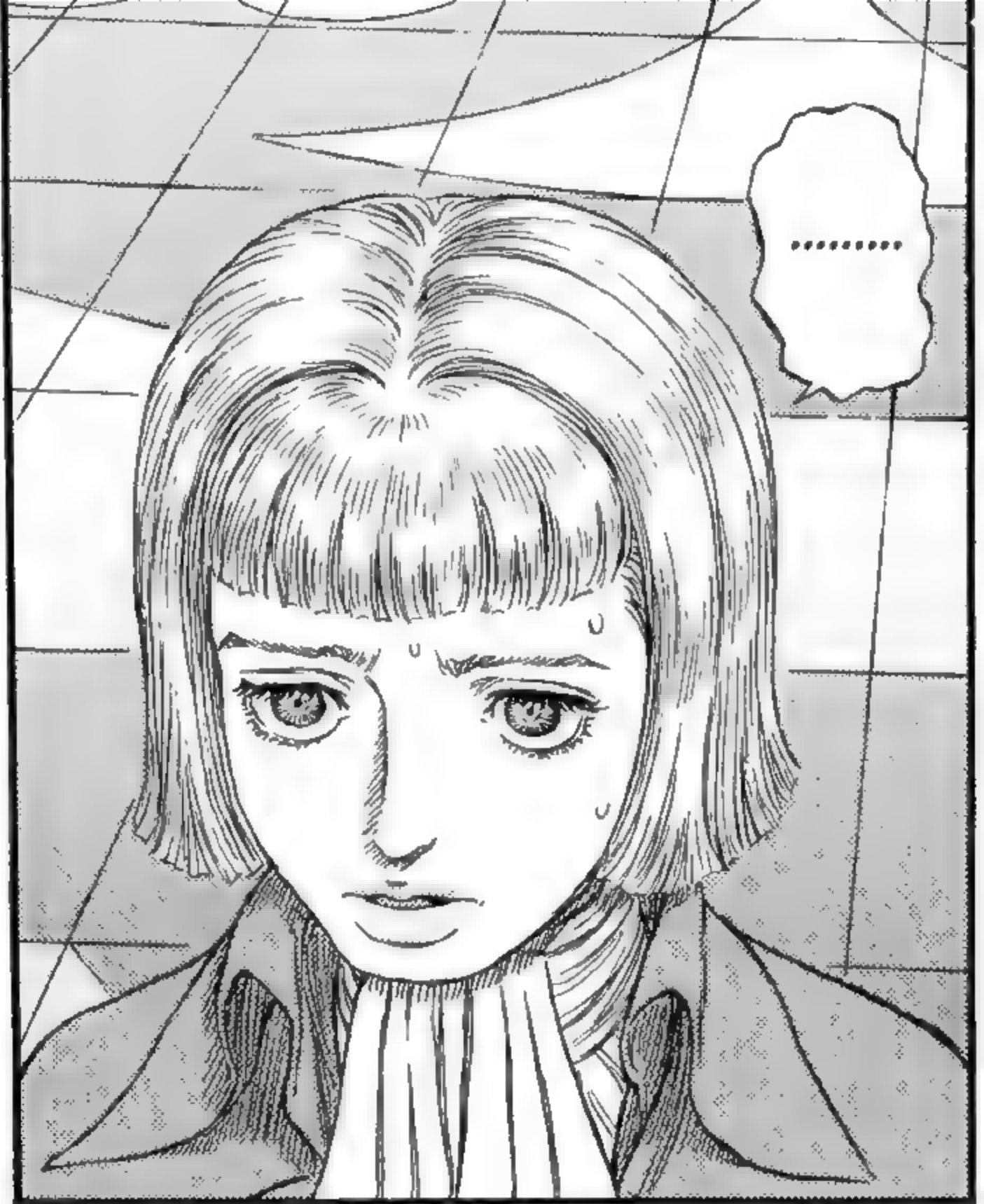
\*FX: CLENCH









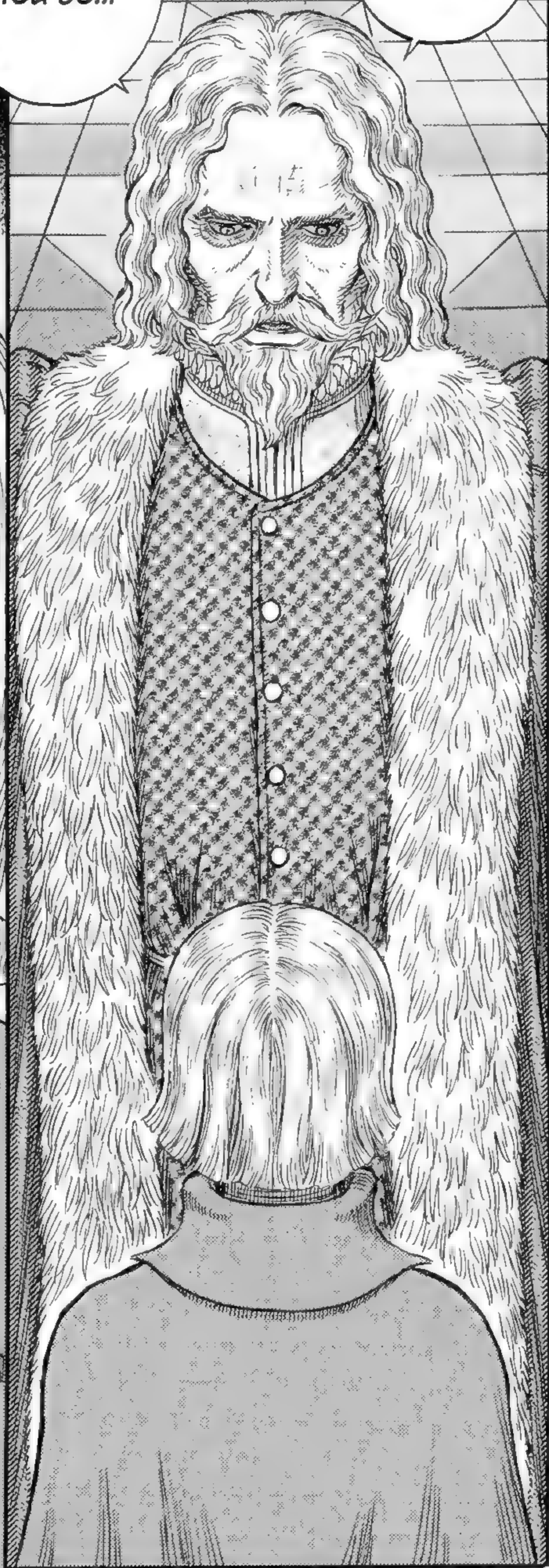




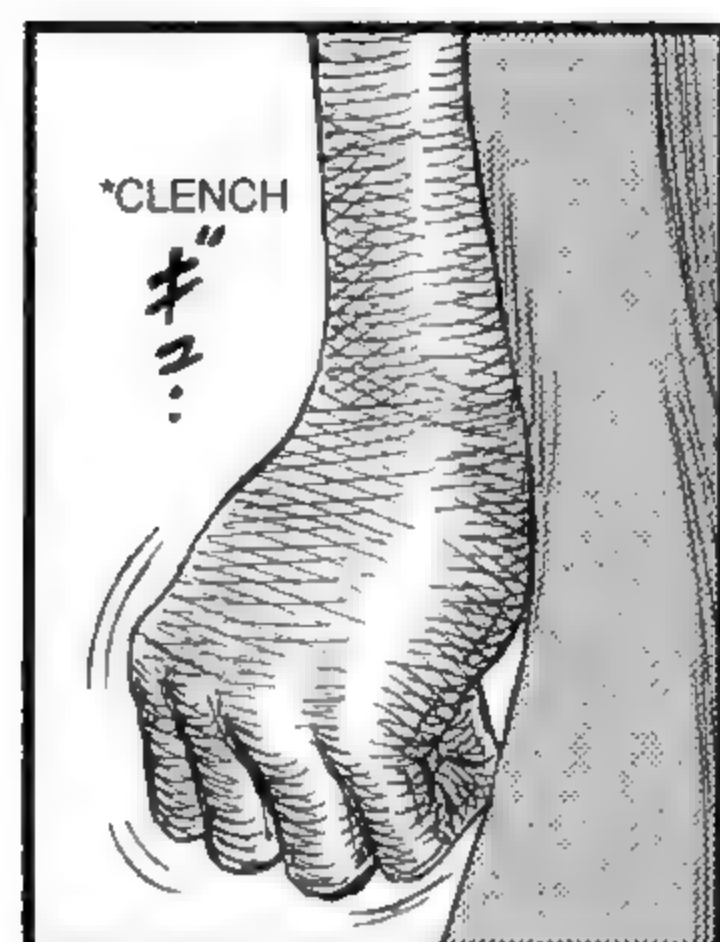
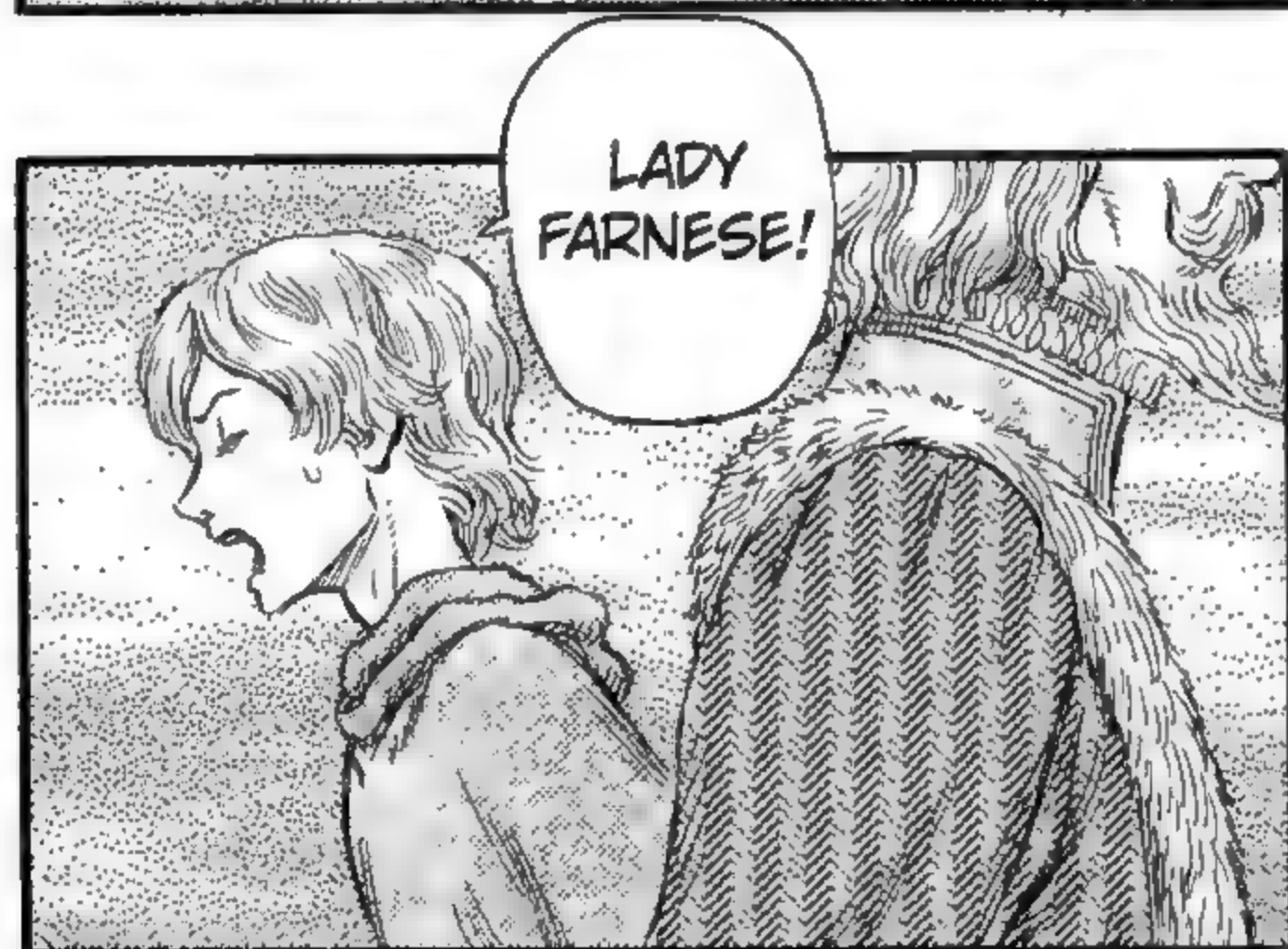
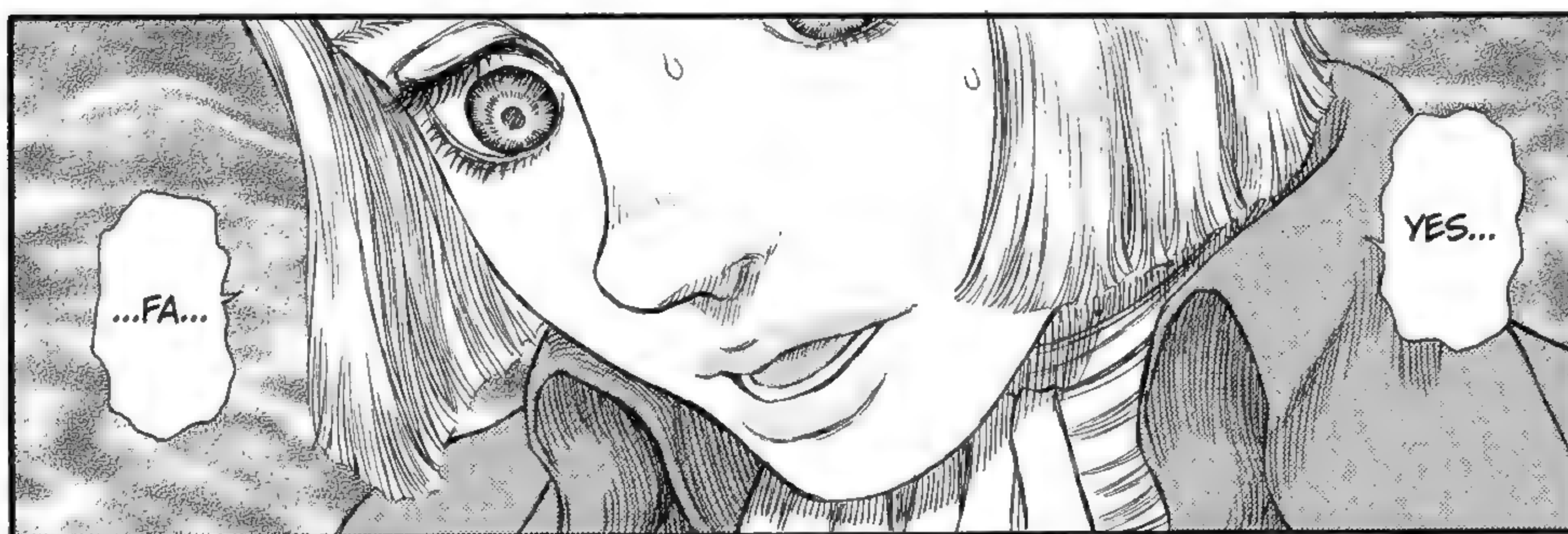
...THE STAR  
UNDER WHICH YOU  
WERE BORN WILL  
SEE TO IT THAT  
YOU SULLY THE  
HONOR OF OUR  
**VANDIMION**  
NAME.

...NO  
MATTER  
WHERE  
YOU GO...

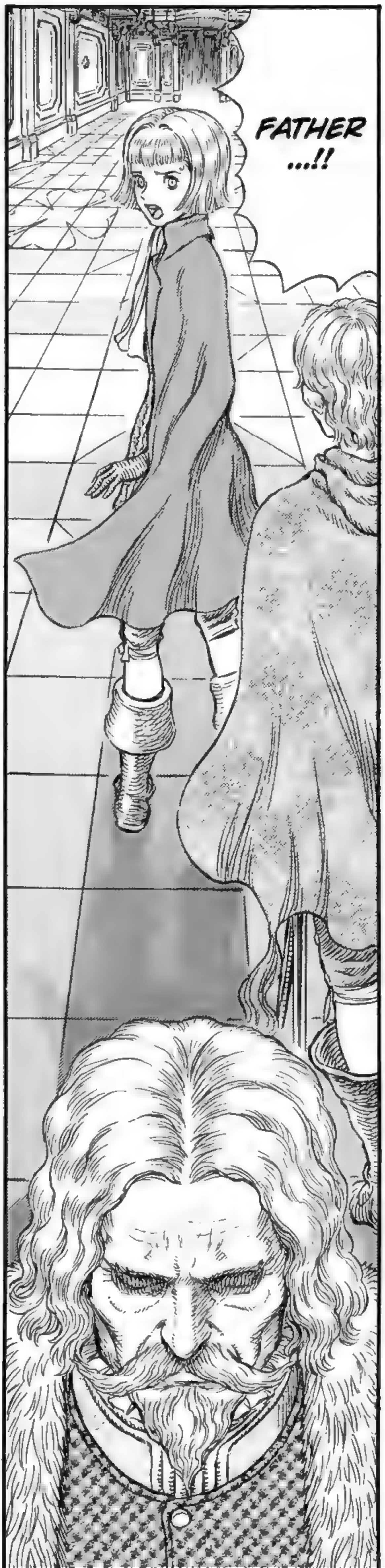
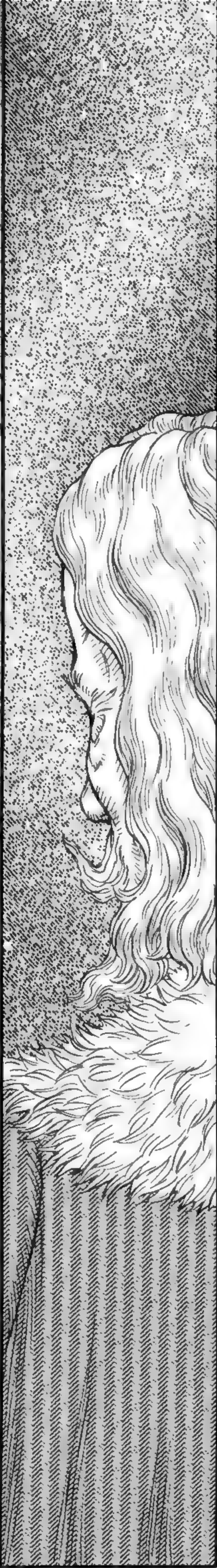
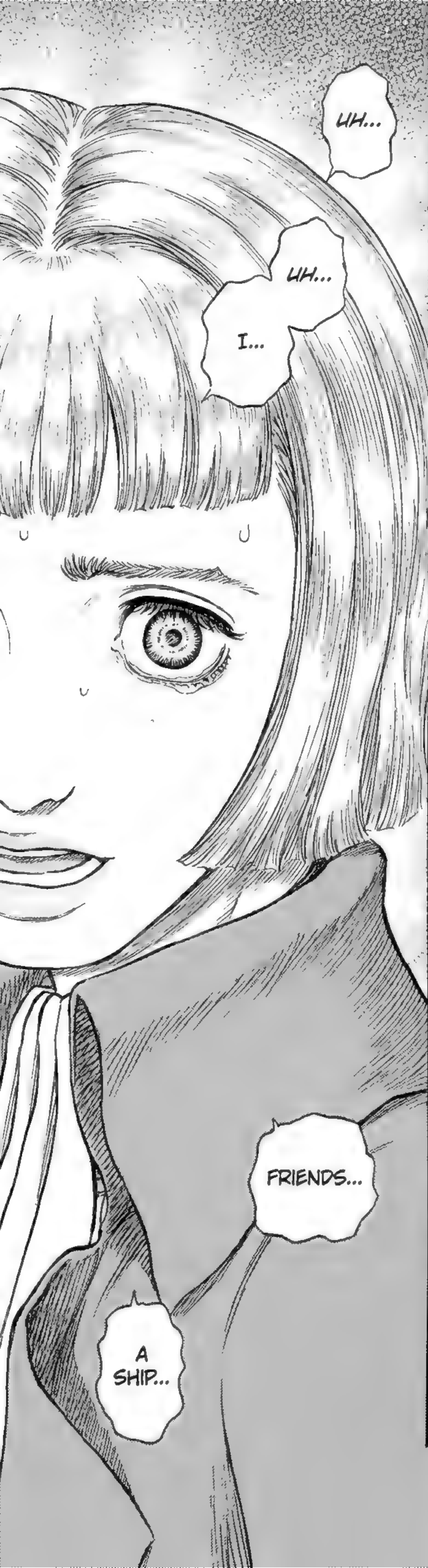
IT  
WOULD  
SEEM  
THAT...



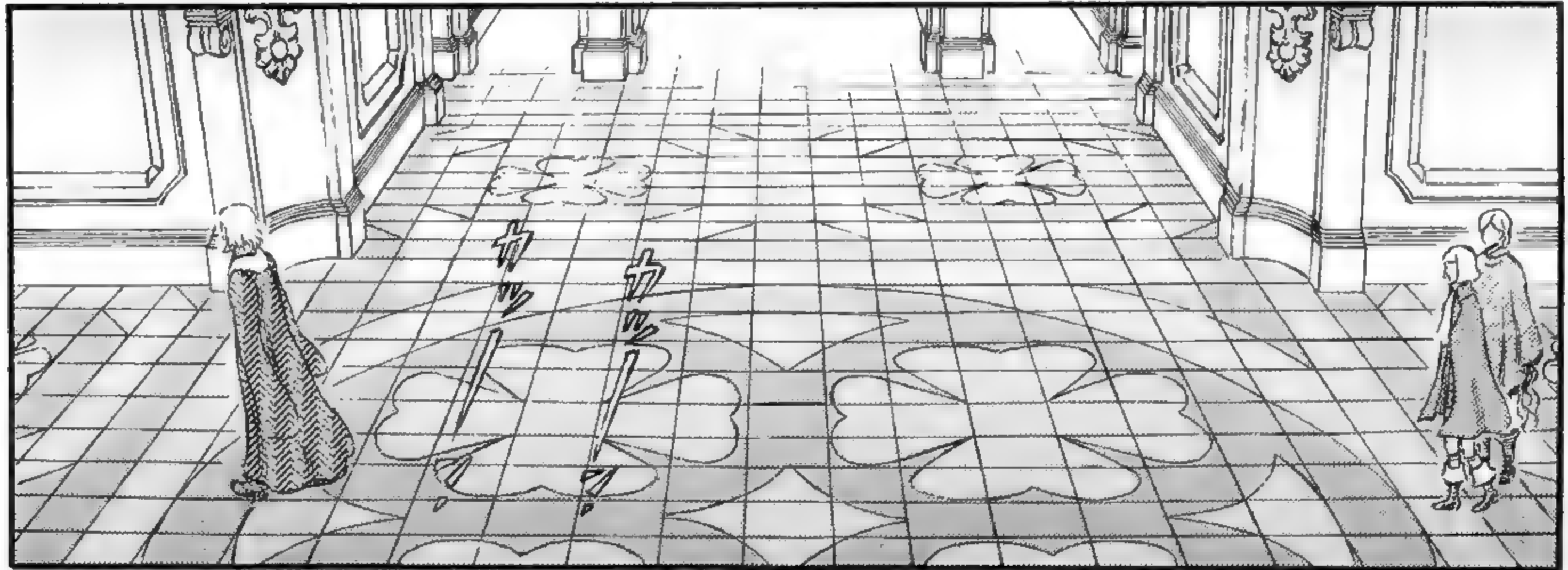
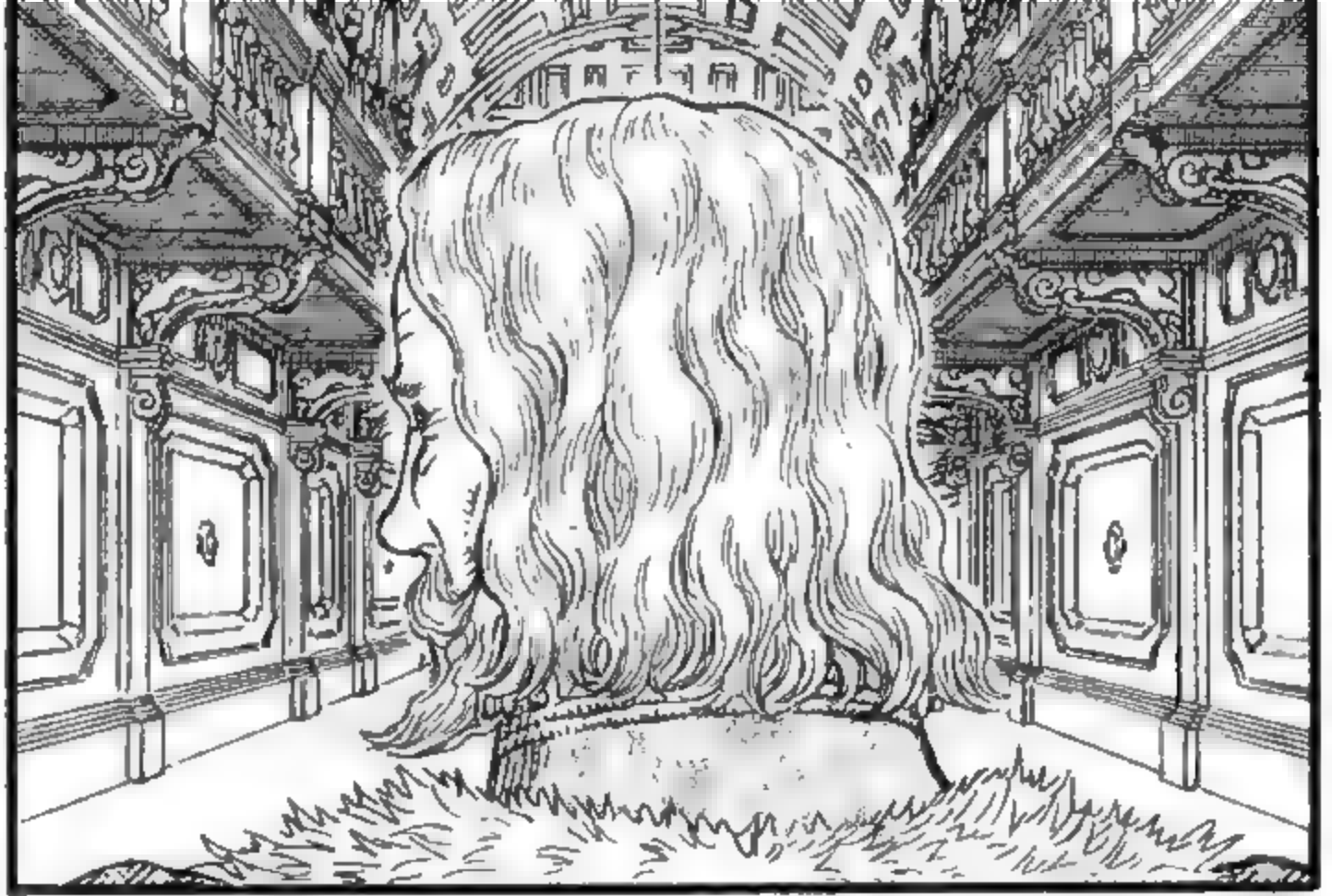
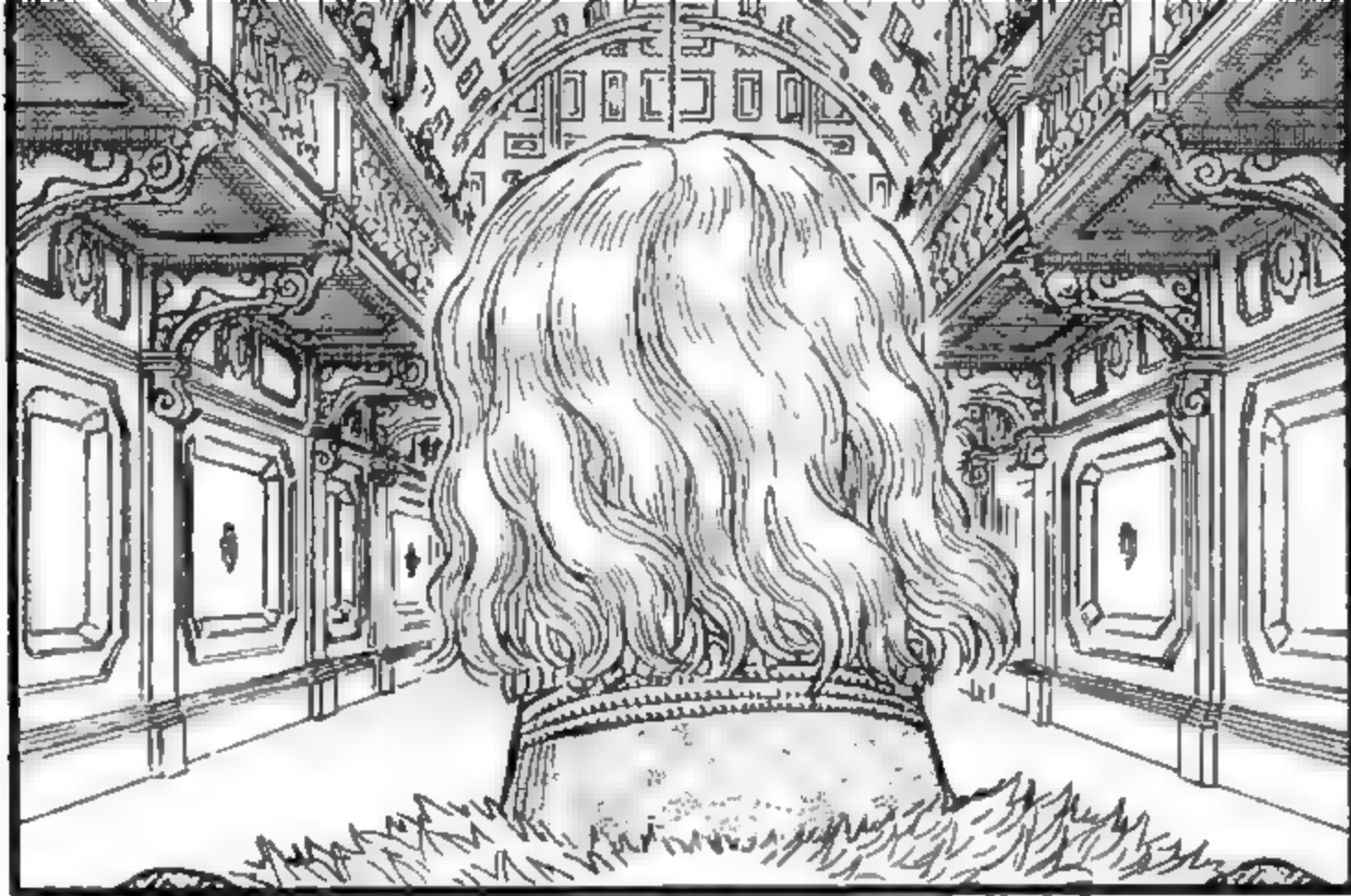




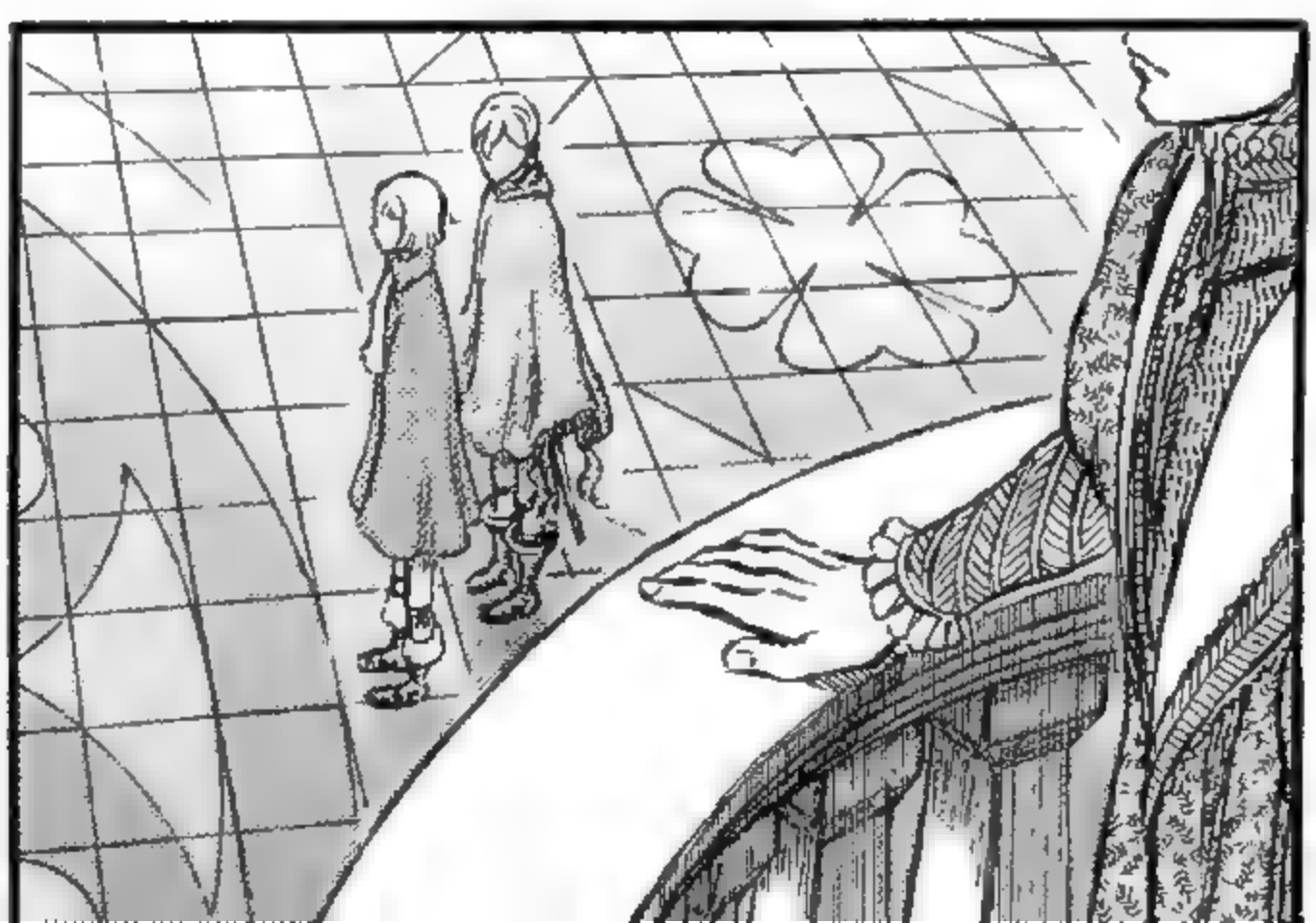
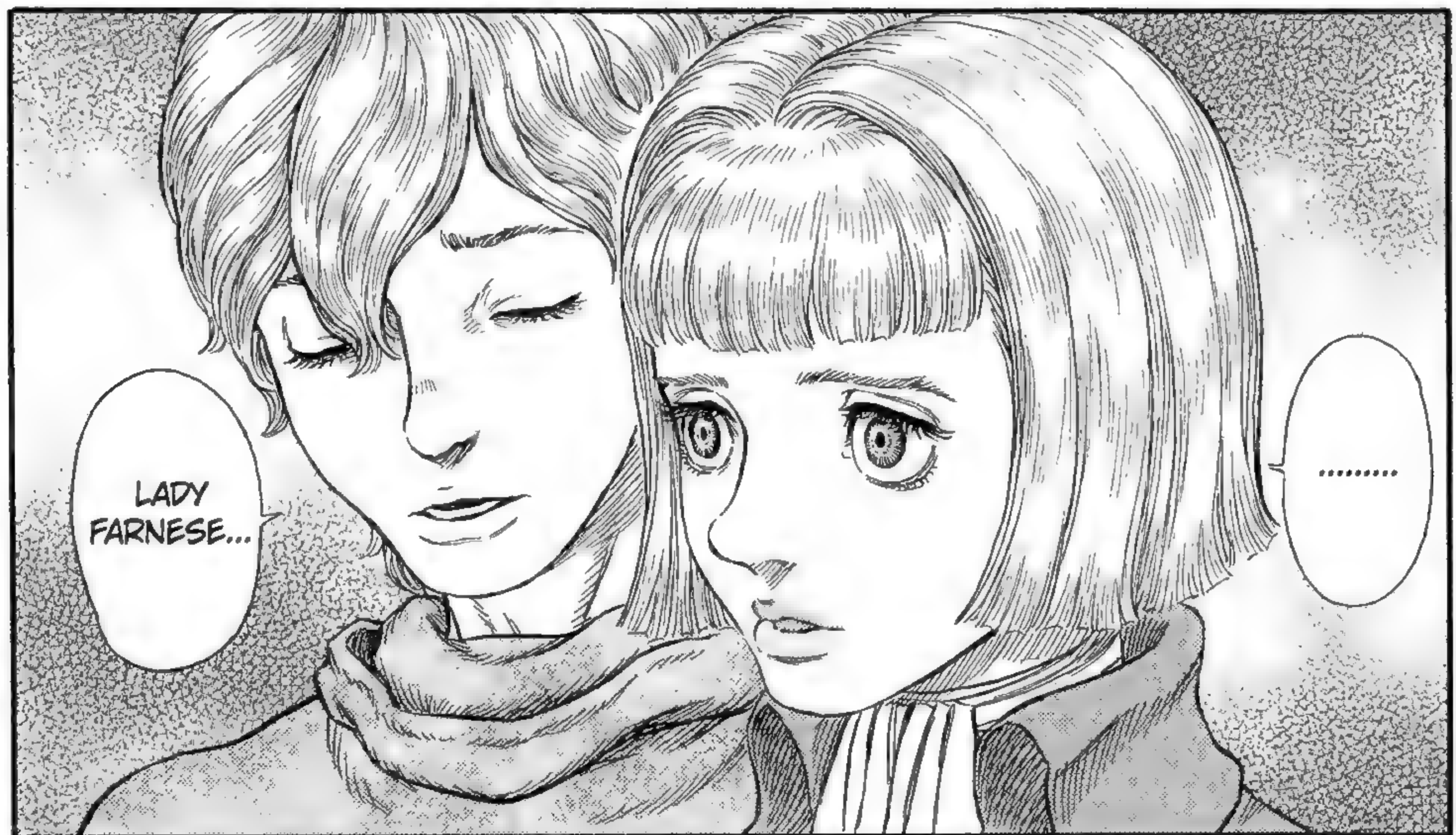




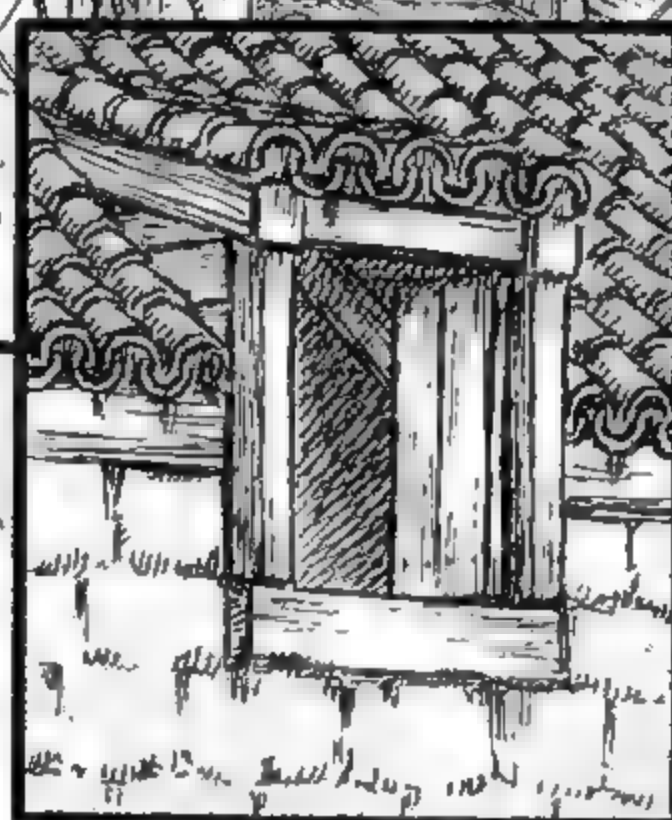




\*FX: TAK TAK







\*FX: SPLASH SPLASH

庭園にて

IN THE GARDEN





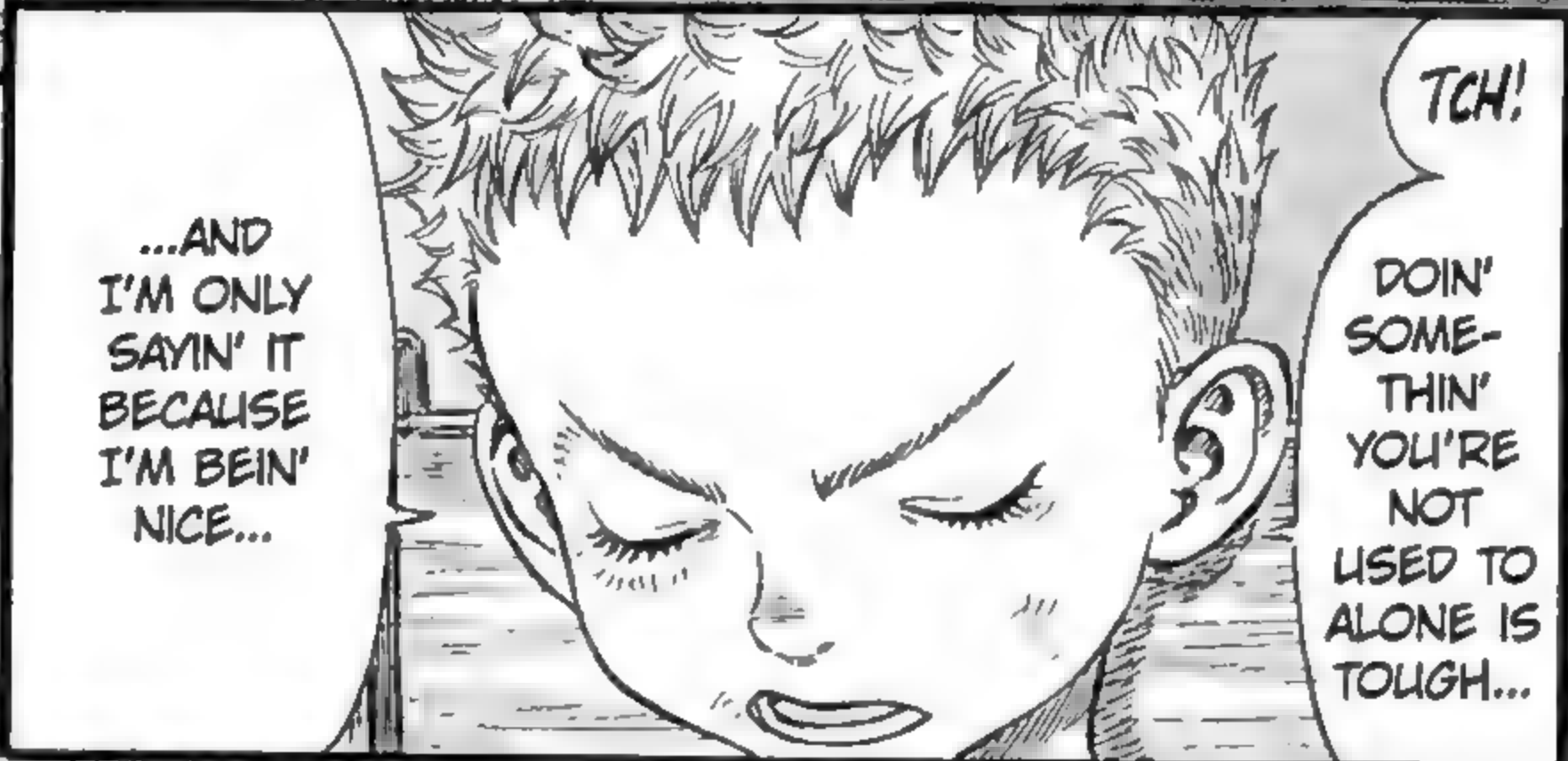


BWAA!

SETTLE  
D--

\*PLISH

\*PLISH



...AND  
I'M ONLY  
SAYIN' IT  
BECAUSE  
I'M BEIN'  
NICE...

TCH!

DOIN'  
SOME-  
THIN'  
YOU'RE  
NOT  
USED TO  
ALONE IS  
TOUGH...



I SAID  
I'D HELP  
YOU.

NO  
THANK  
YOU!

C'MO  
NNN



ANHH, NOOO!  
PLEASE  
DON'T PULL  
ON THAT!

YOU'VE GOT  
A PREVIOUS  
OFFENSE.

...So  
WHAT'S UP  
WITH THIS  
CRAP?!

\*WOMEN

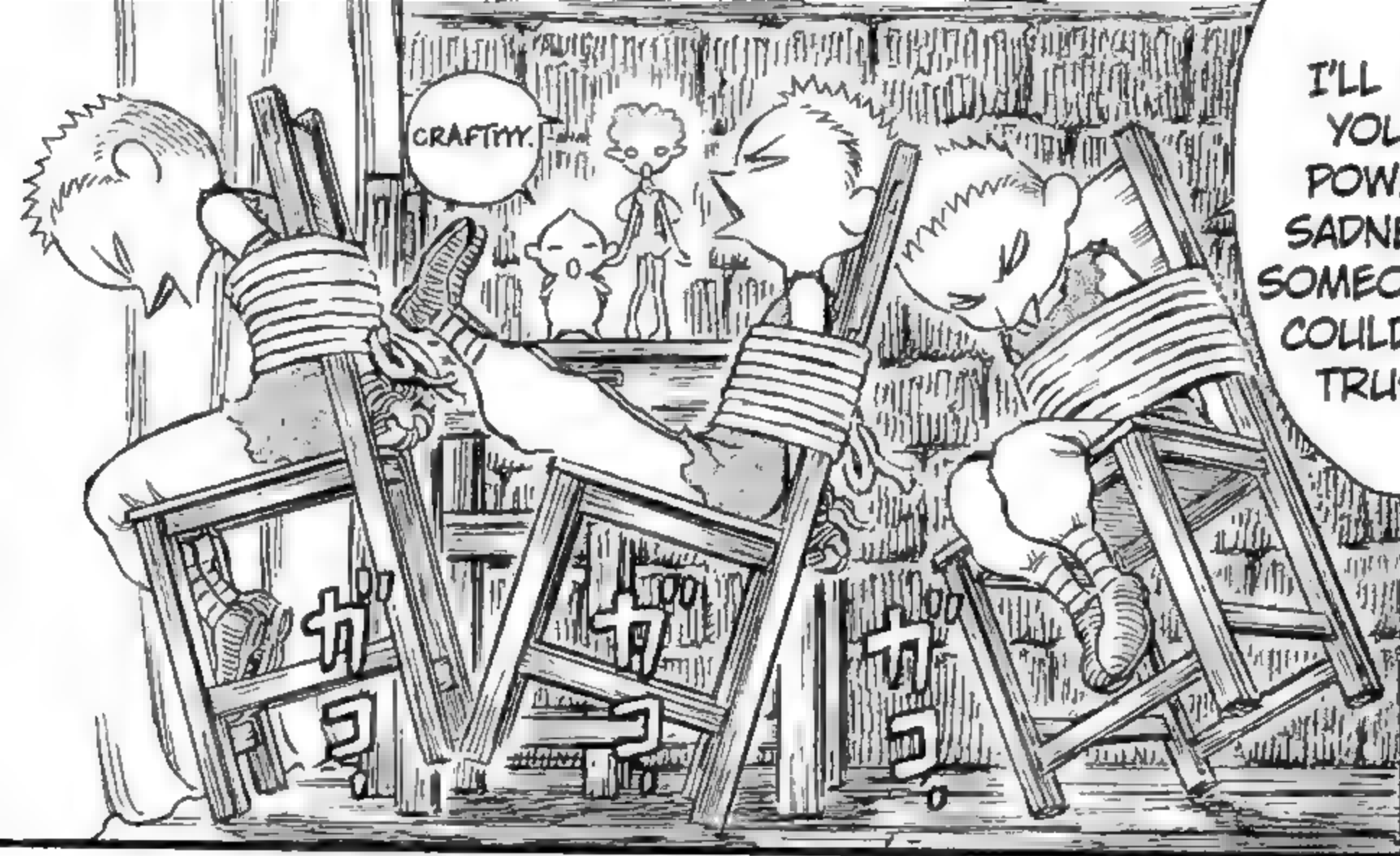
女

銭湯

\*PUBLIC BATH

MEIJI





\*FX: KTUNK KTUNK KTUNK

I'LL SHOW  
YOU THE  
POWER OF  
SADNESS OF  
SOMEONE WHO  
COULDN'T BE  
TRUSTED!

**THIS** IS HOW YOU  
APPRECIATE A COMPANION  
WHO'S COME THROUGH SO  
MANY BATTLES WITH YOU?  
REALLY, IT'S SO **SAD**,  
I CAN'T EVEN  
GET PISSED  
ABOUT IT.



**YOUR  
NASTY  
NATURE'S  
TURNED  
ME INTO  
A RAVIN'  
BEAST!**

\*FX: MFF MFF



IT'LL  
ONLY END  
IN TEARS  
IF YOU  
RESIST  
HER.

\*FX: FWMP



OO  
G  
OOO

GAS  
CA!

H...  
HEY...!

WHAT'D  
I JUST  
FEEL?!

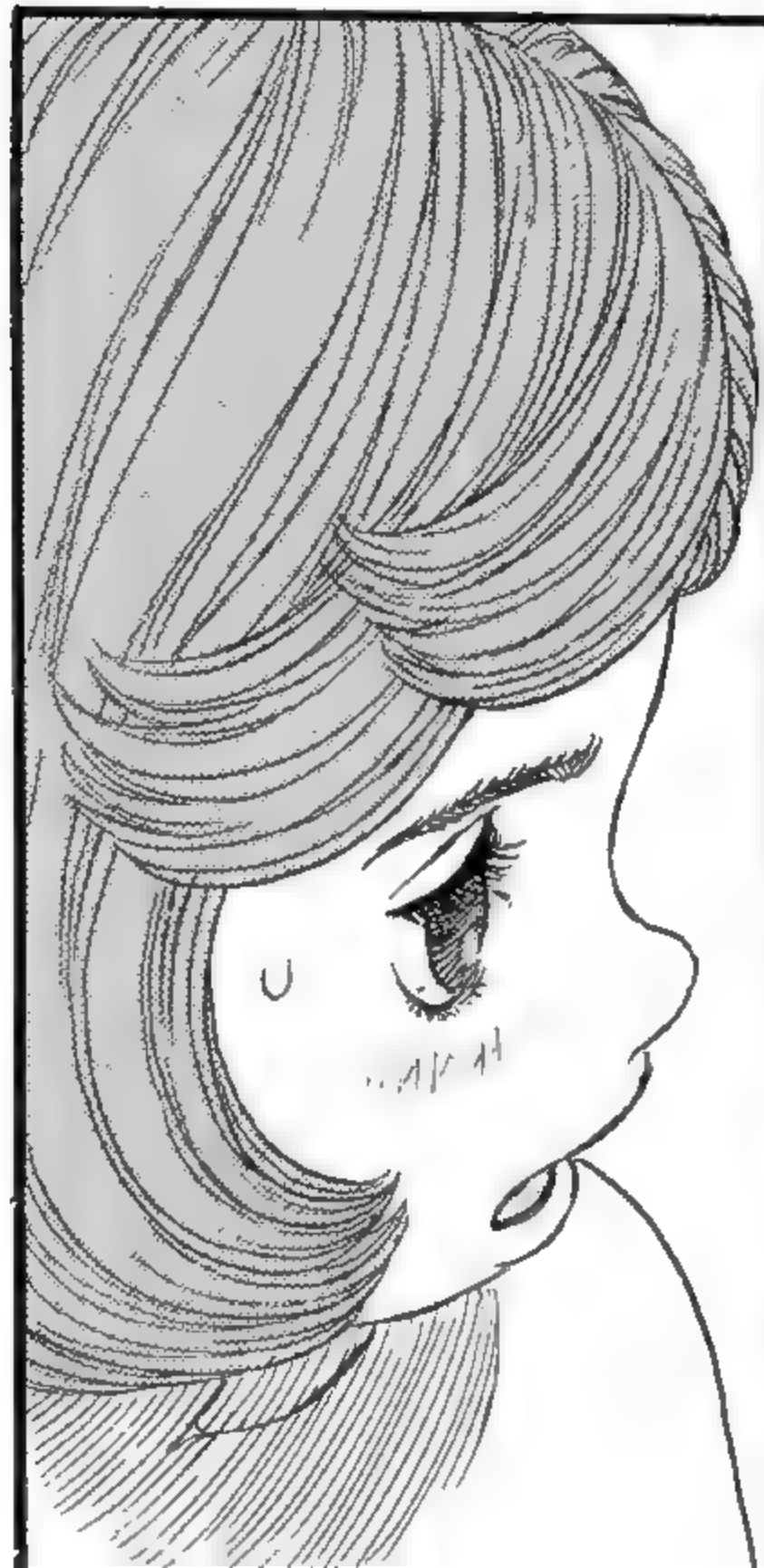
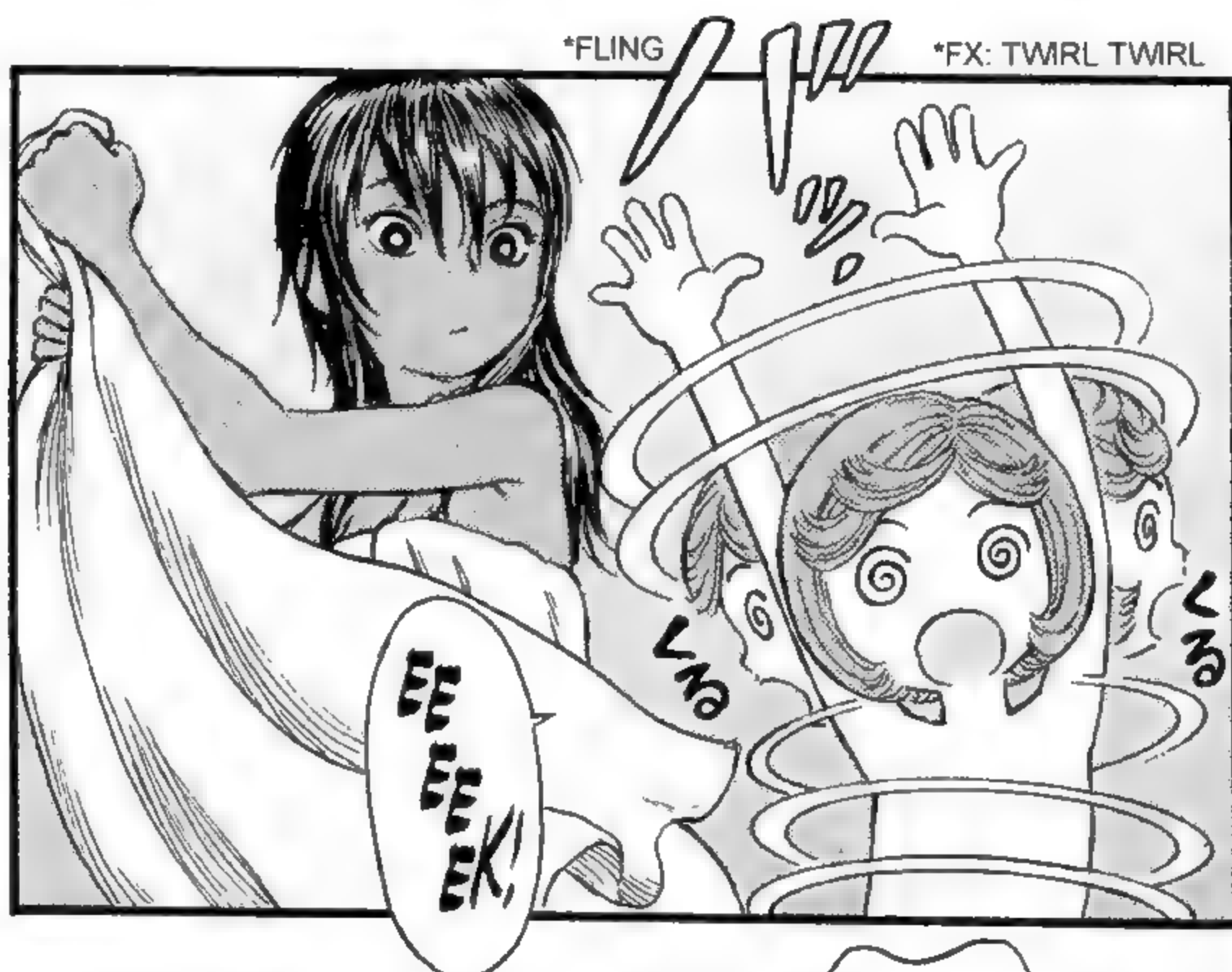
.....!

3  
0  
TOTTER

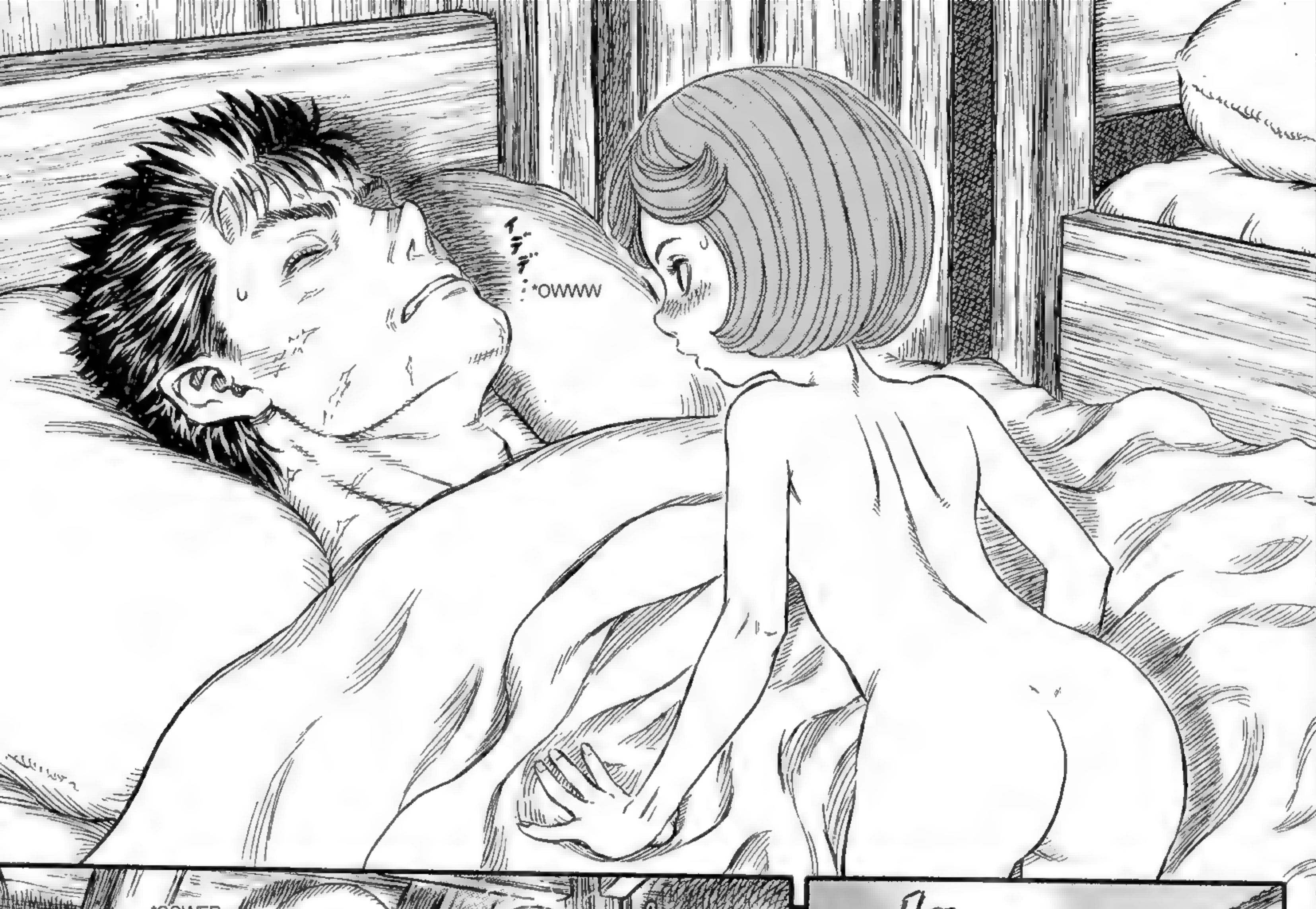




\*FX: BLOOSH







\*FX: SHUDDER

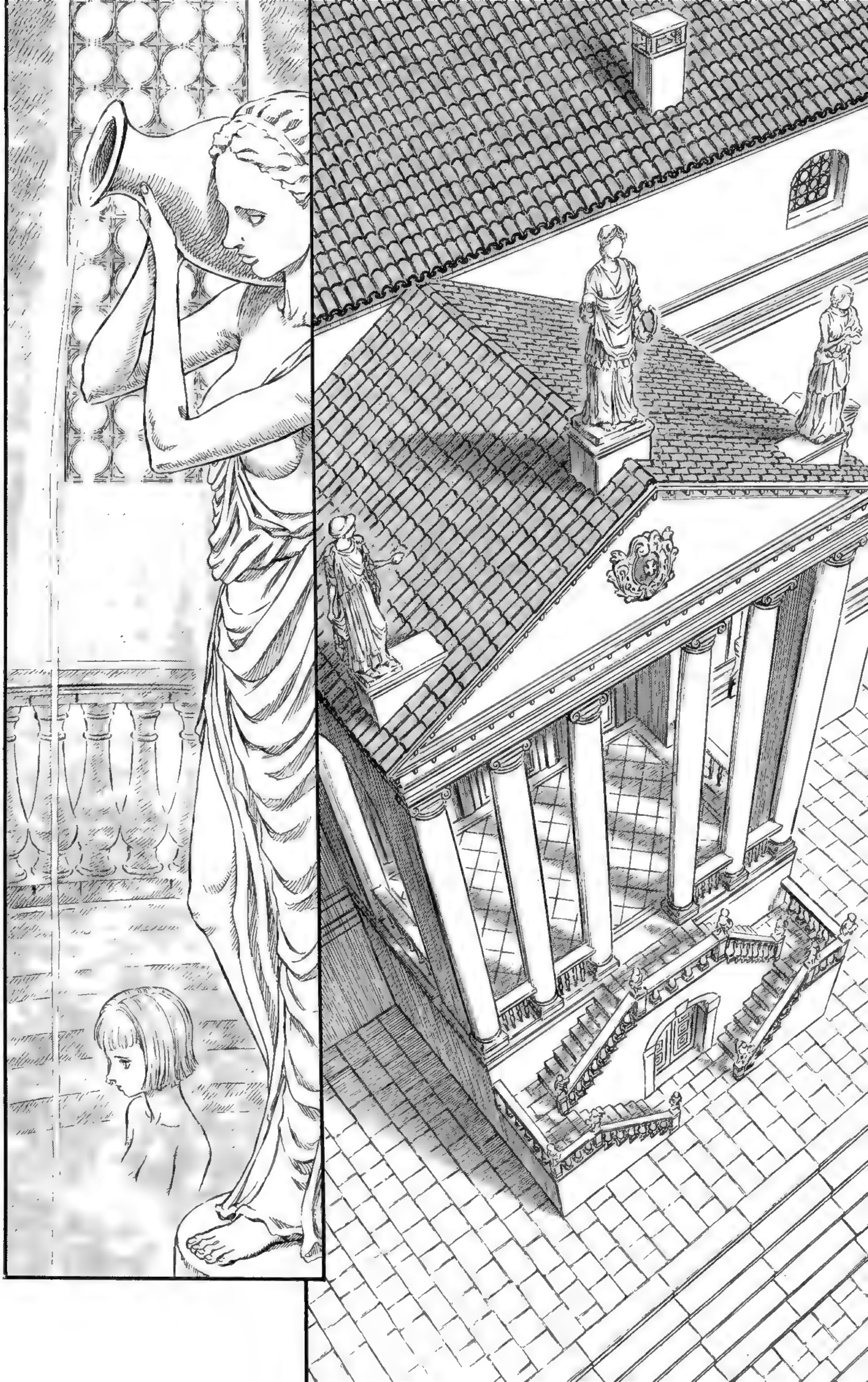
\*FX: SMOLDER



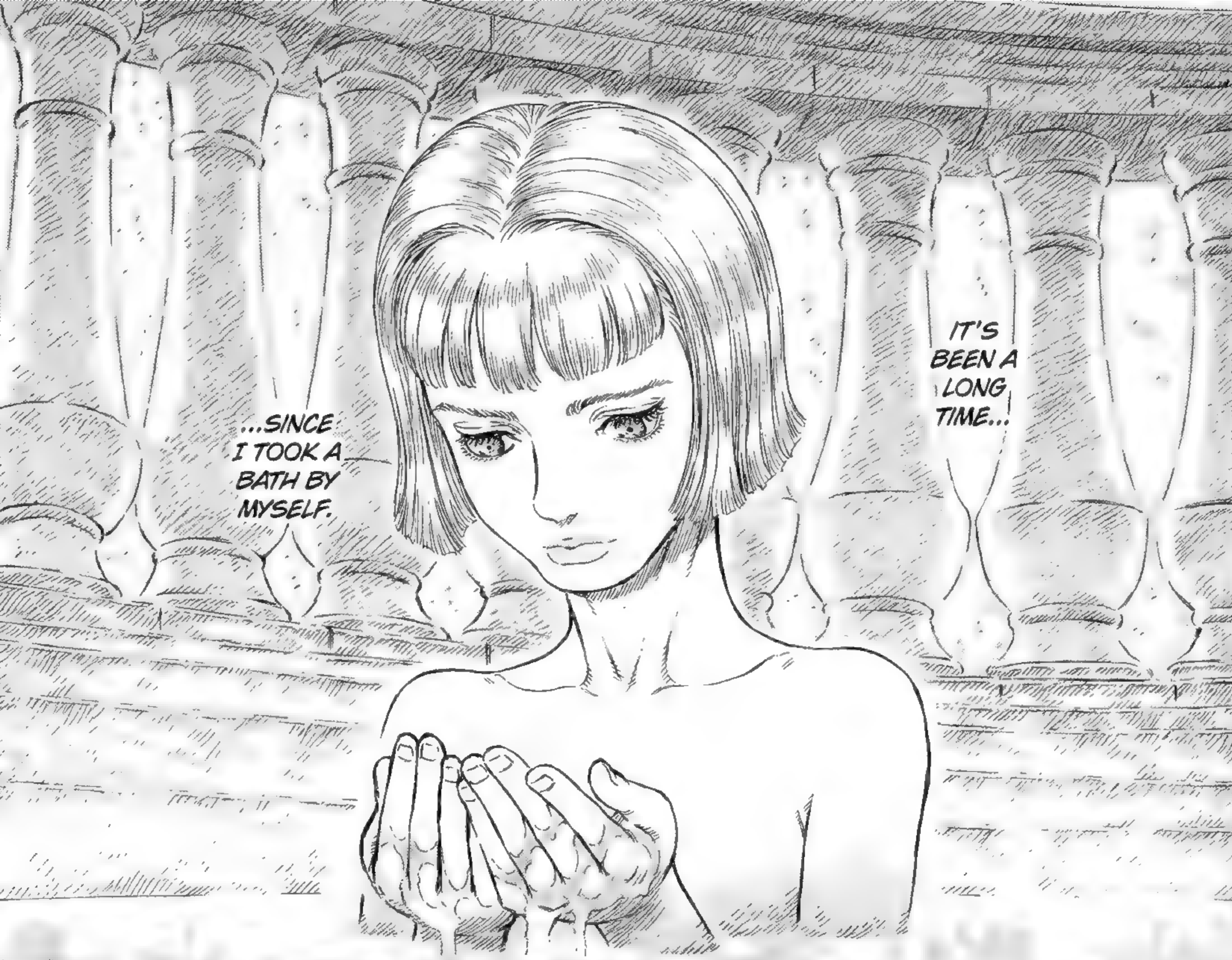
PLEASE  
DON'T  
REMEMBER  
THIS!





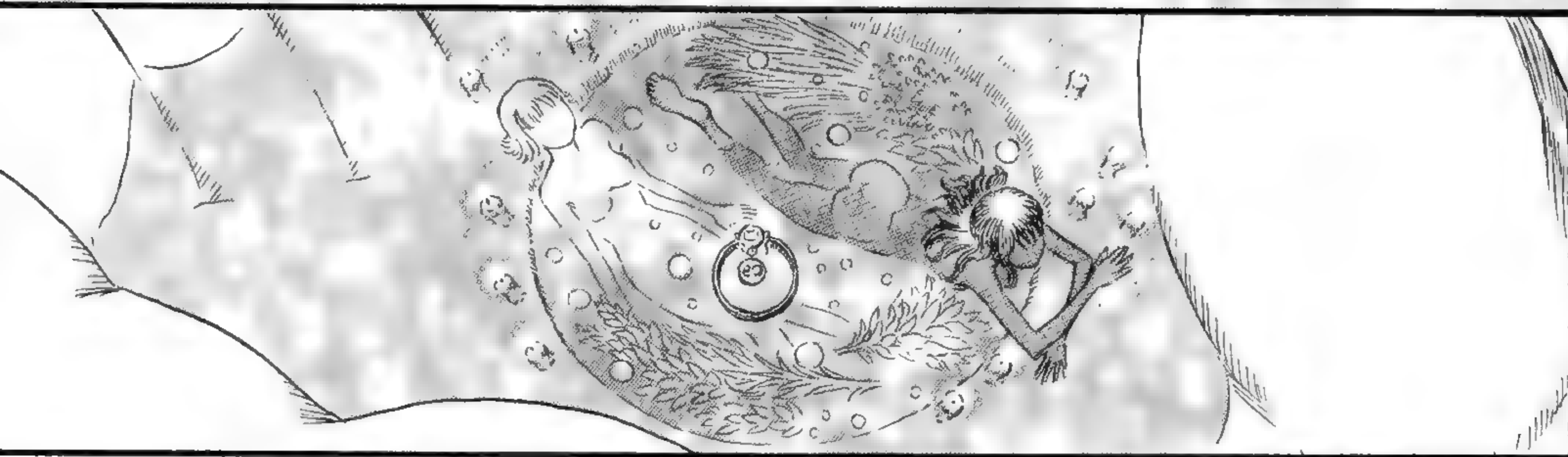






...SINCE  
I TOOK A  
BATH BY  
MYSELF.

IT'S  
BEEN A  
LONG  
TIME...



MILADY.

YOUR  
CHANGE OF  
CLOTHES IS  
PREPARED.



CASCA...

I WONDER  
IF HER  
HAIR'S  
BEING  
WASHED  
PROPERLY...



\*PLASH





YES...

THEY  
CAN DO  
WITHOUT  
ME, AT  
LEAST...



SHOULD  
YOU  
REQUIRE,  
WE WILL  
PREPARE  
NEW  
ONES.

THEY  
WERE  
DAMAGED,  
SO WE  
THOUGHT  
WE  
WOULD  
DISPOSE  
OF  
THEM...



WHERE  
ARE MY  
DAGGER AND  
SHIRT...?



.....!





MILADY!



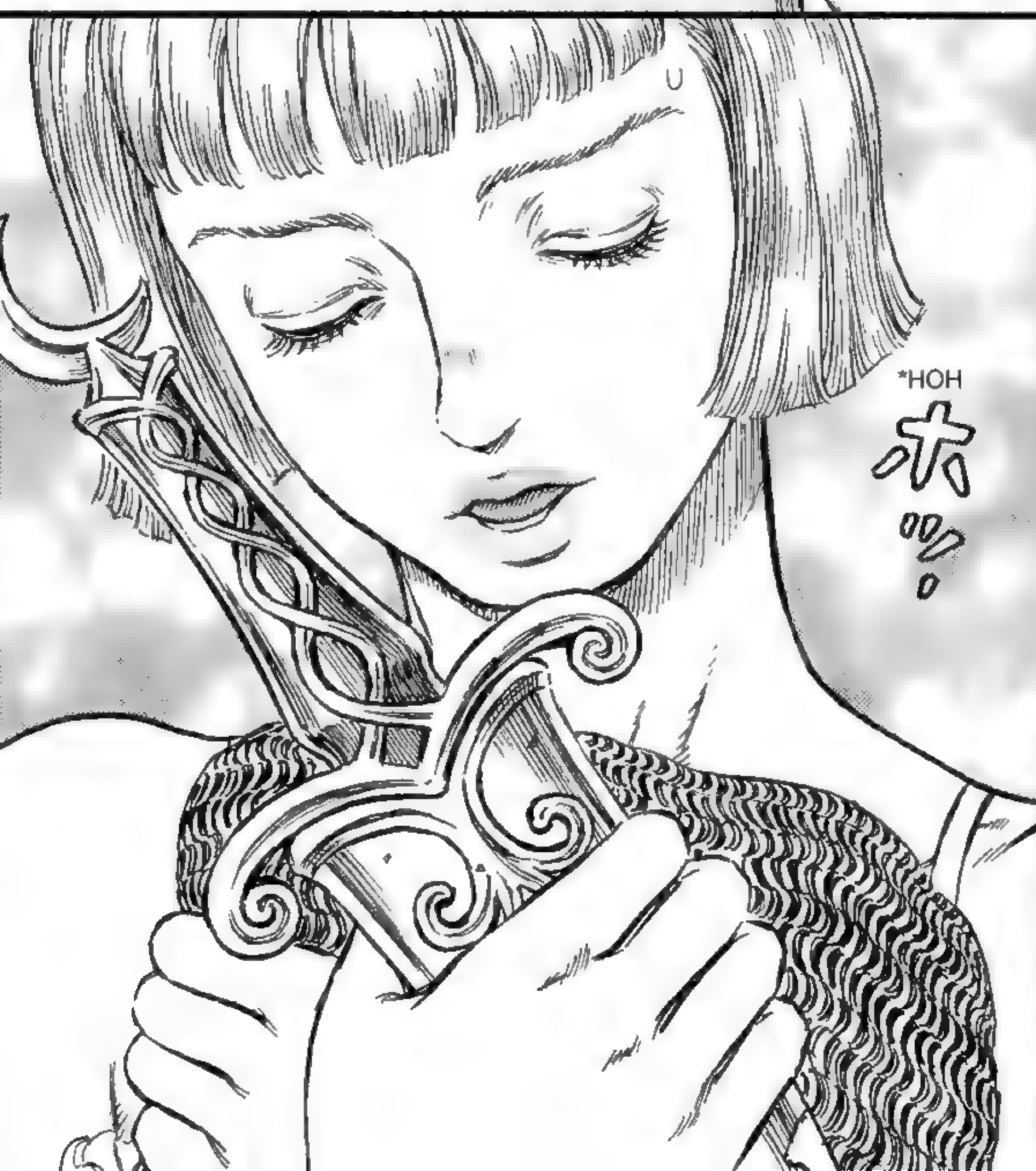
PLEASE,  
WAIT!

PLEASE,  
YOUR  
CLOTHES...!



LADY  
FARNESE!

L...

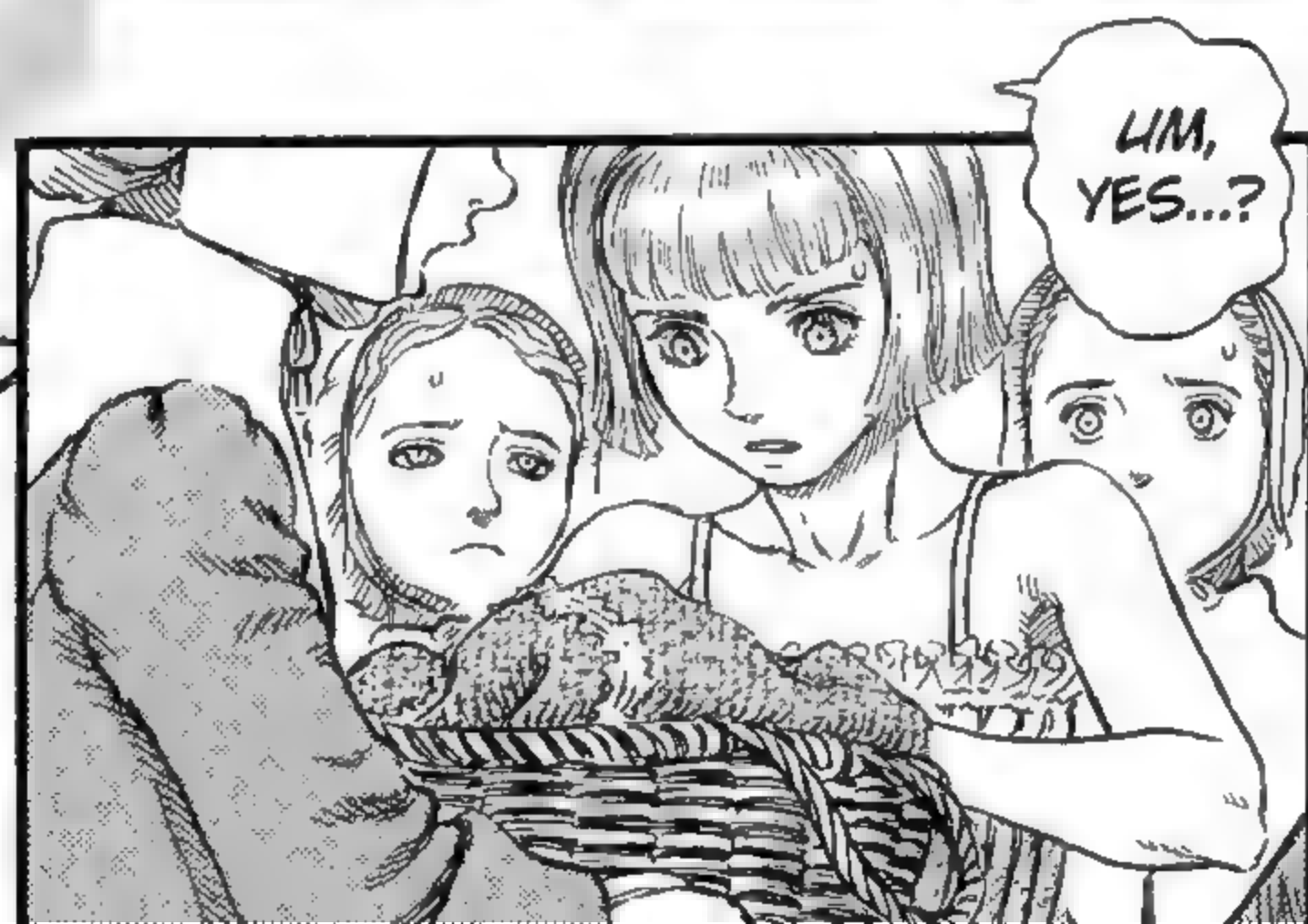


\*HOH  
\*  
!!  
o



WAIT  
RIGHT  
THERE!

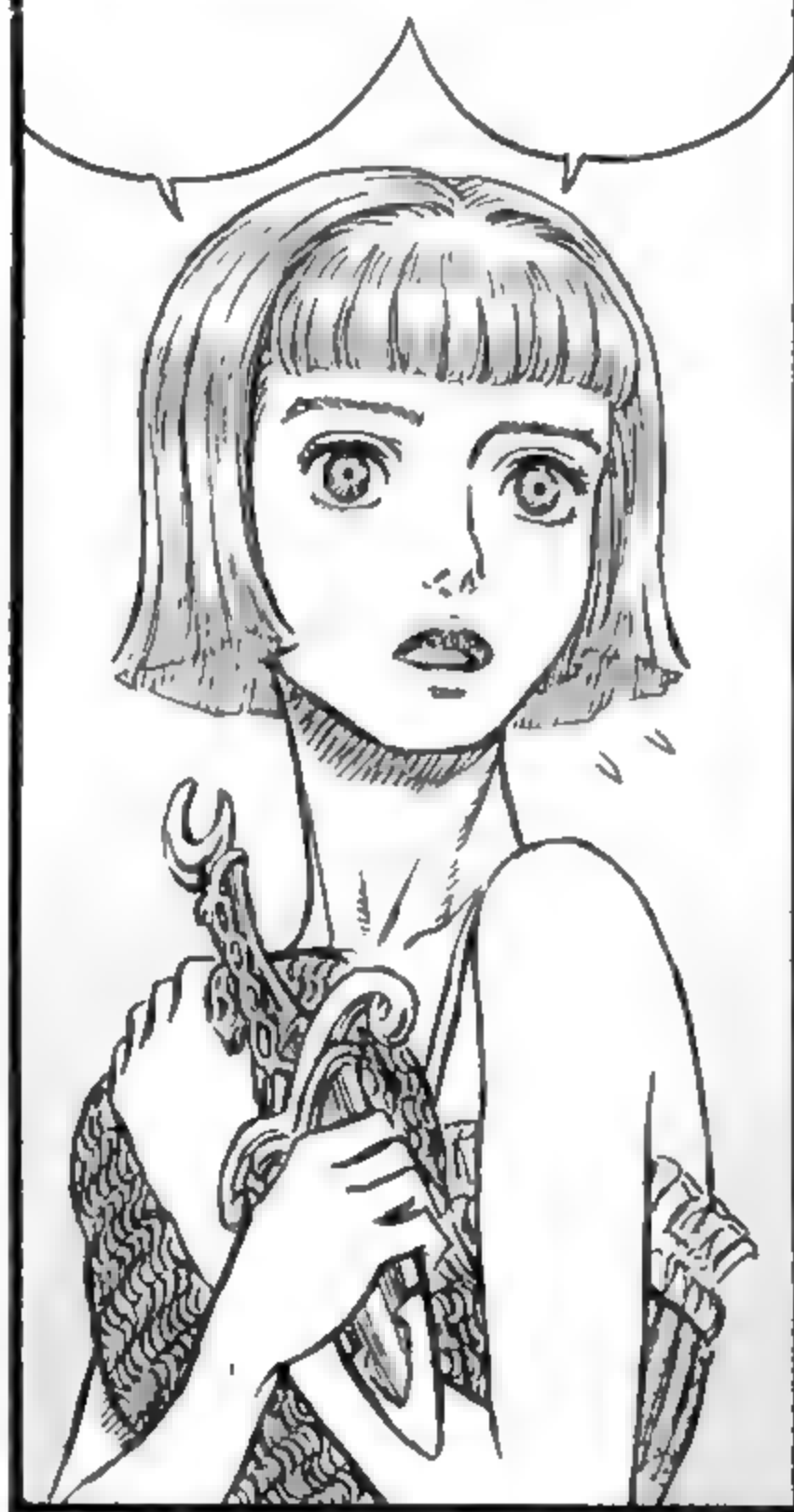
YOU!



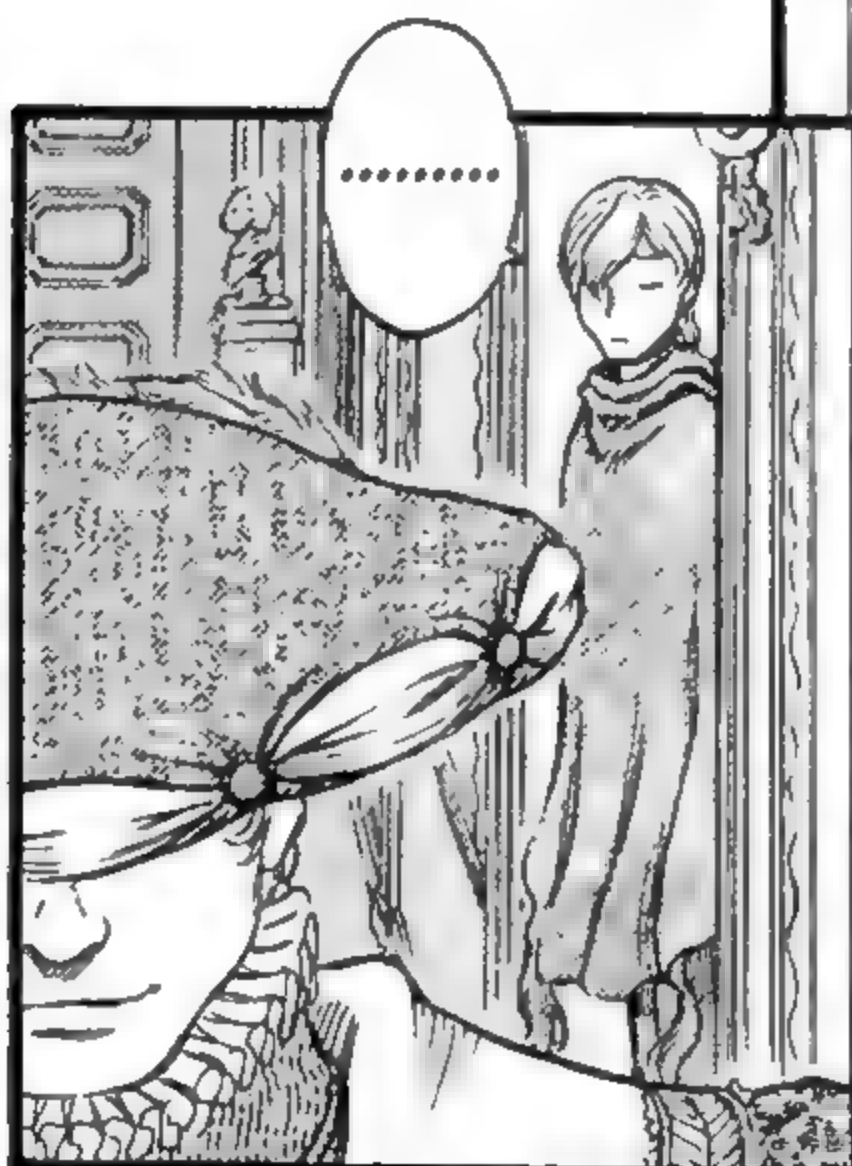
LHM,  
YES...?



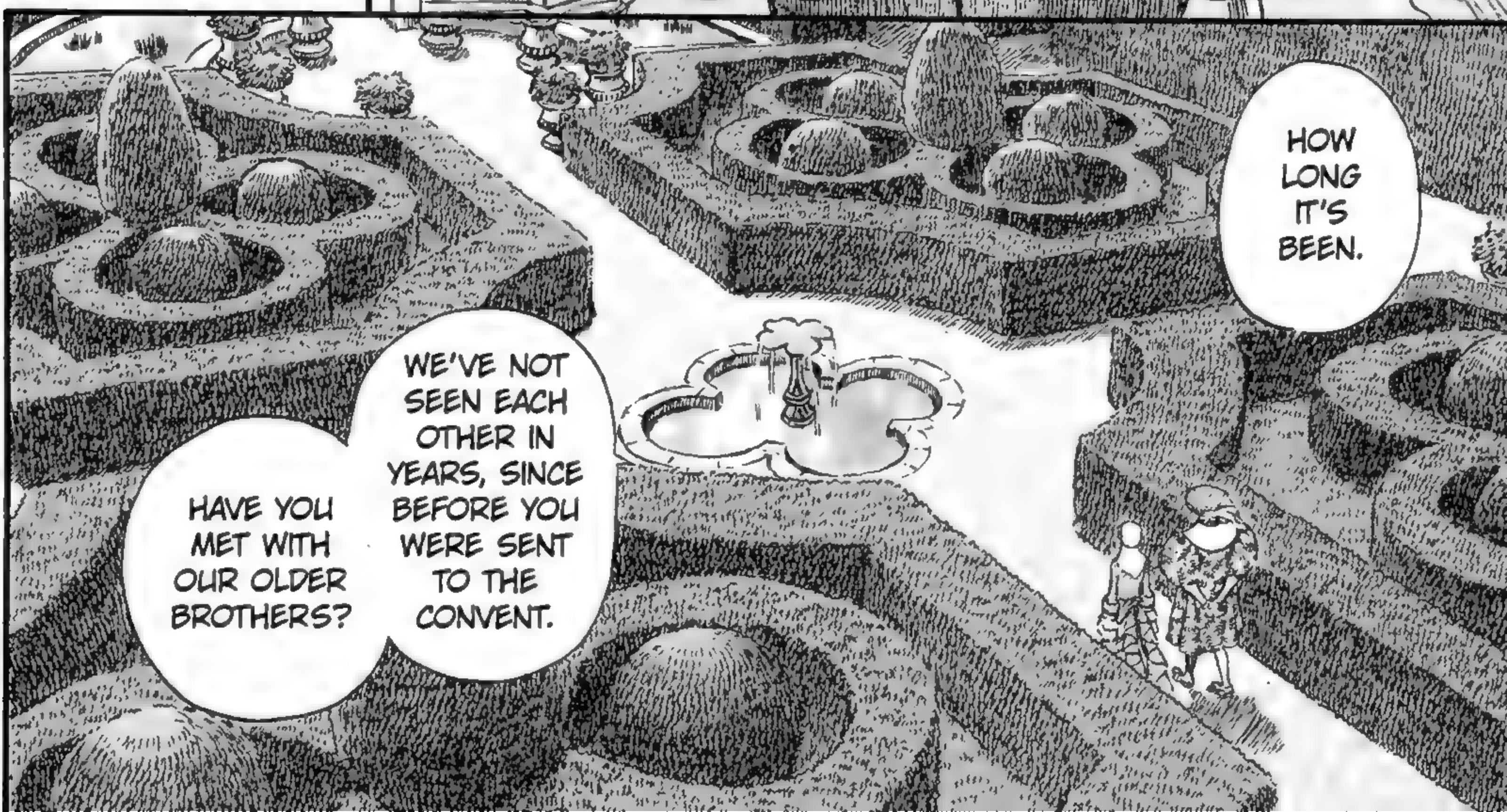
BROTHER. MANIFICO...



YOUR  
BEHAVIOR  
IS AS UNPREC-  
EDENTED  
AS EVER,  
LITTLE  
SISTER.



NO  
WONDER  
FATHER'S  
AMAZED.



HOW  
LONG  
IT'S  
BEEN.

HAVE YOU  
MET WITH  
OUR OLDER  
BROTHERS?

WE'VE NOT  
SEEN EACH  
OTHER IN  
YEARS, SINCE  
BEFORE YOU  
WERE SENT  
TO THE  
CONVENT.





NATURALLY!

NO...

THE  
VANDIMIONS  
AREN'T  
VERY  
TIGHTLY  
KNIT.

HA  
HA  
HA  
HA

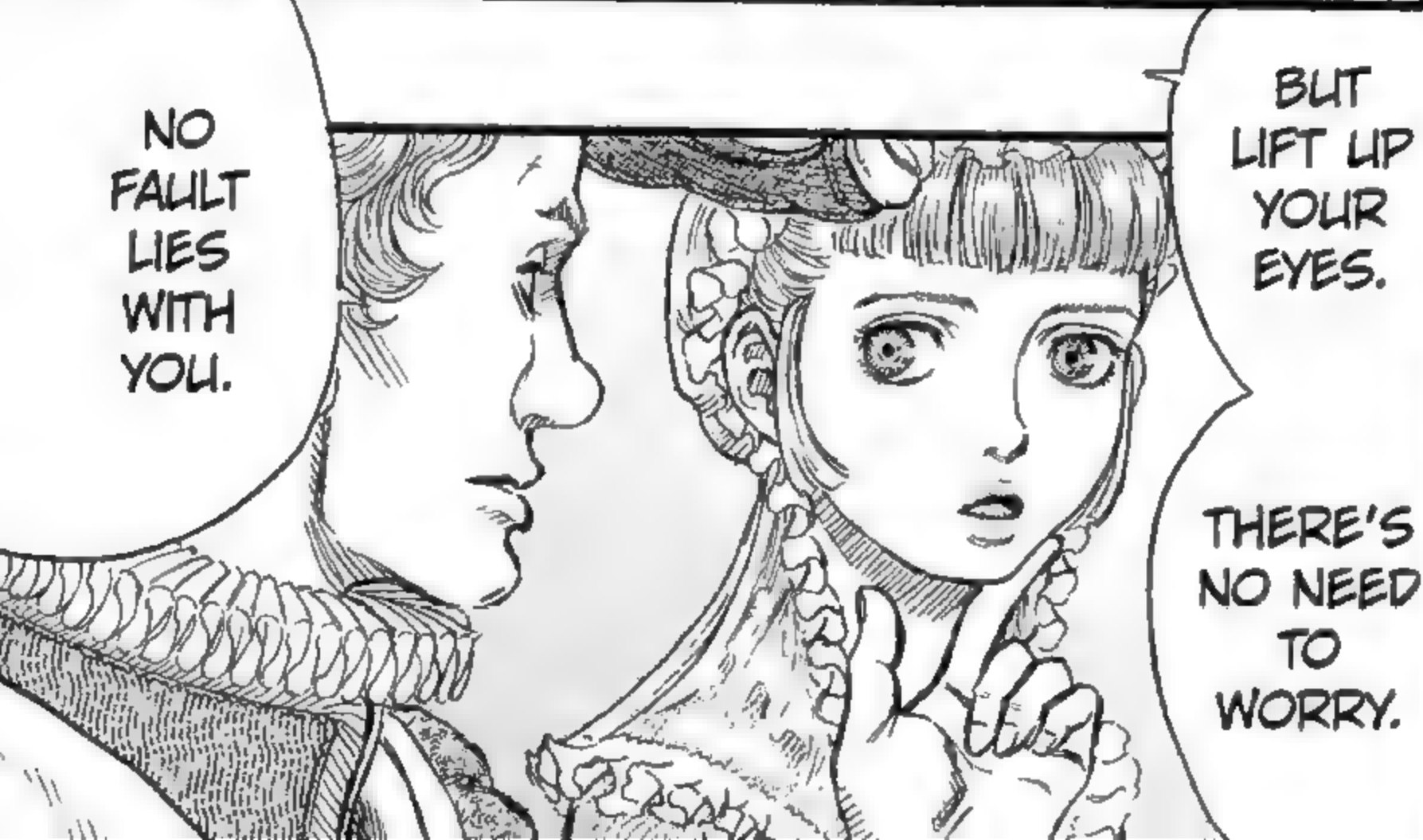


YOUR WORK  
WITH THE HOLY  
IRON CHAIN  
KNIGHTS,  
AND THE  
UNFORTUNATE  
TROUBLES  
THAT  
FOLLOWED.

BUT MUCH  
REGARDING  
YOU HAS  
REACHED MY  
EARS.



A  
PITY,  
THAT.



NO  
FAULT  
LIES  
WITH  
YOU.

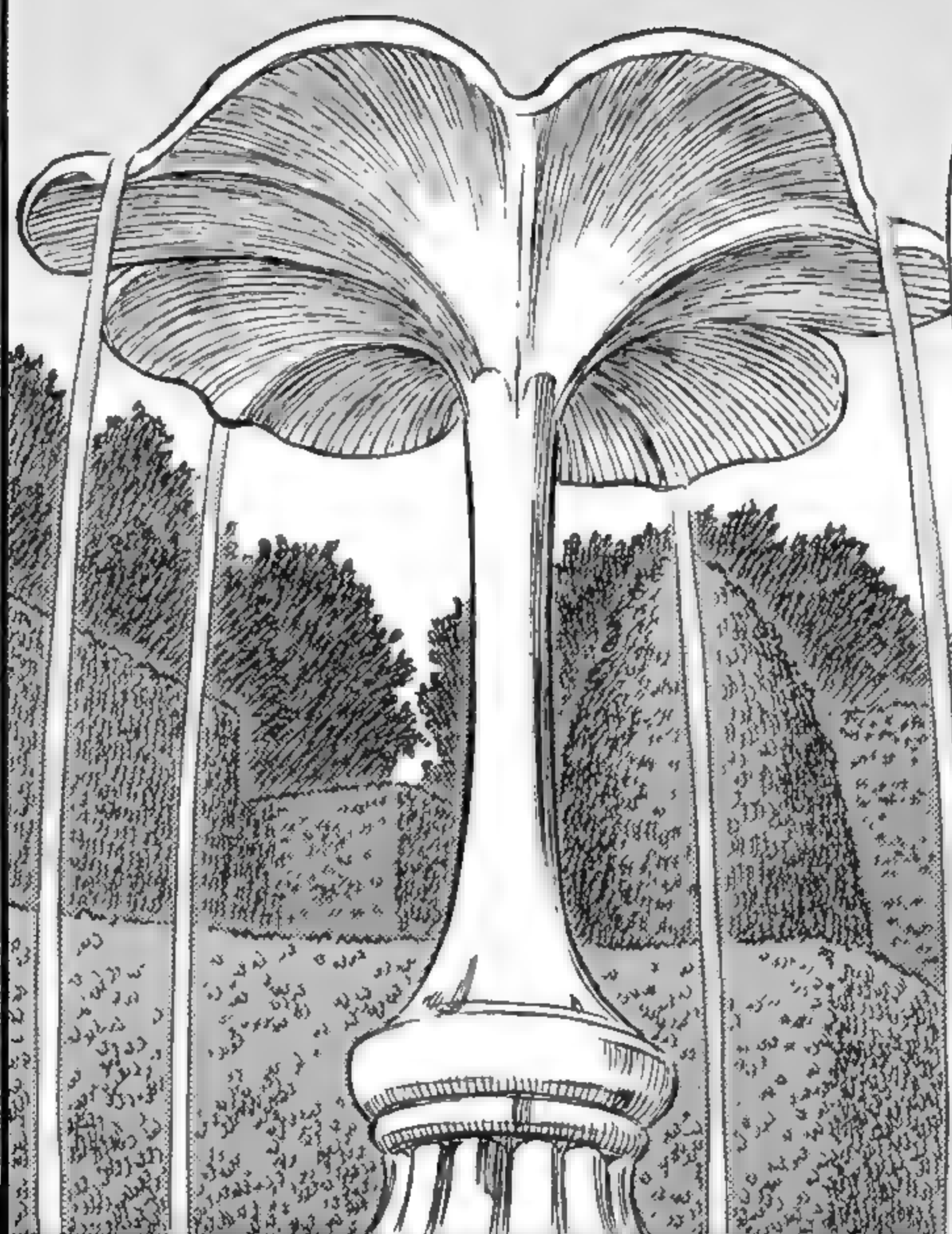
BUT  
LIFT UP  
YOUR  
EYES.

THERE'S  
NO NEED  
TO  
WORRY.



.....



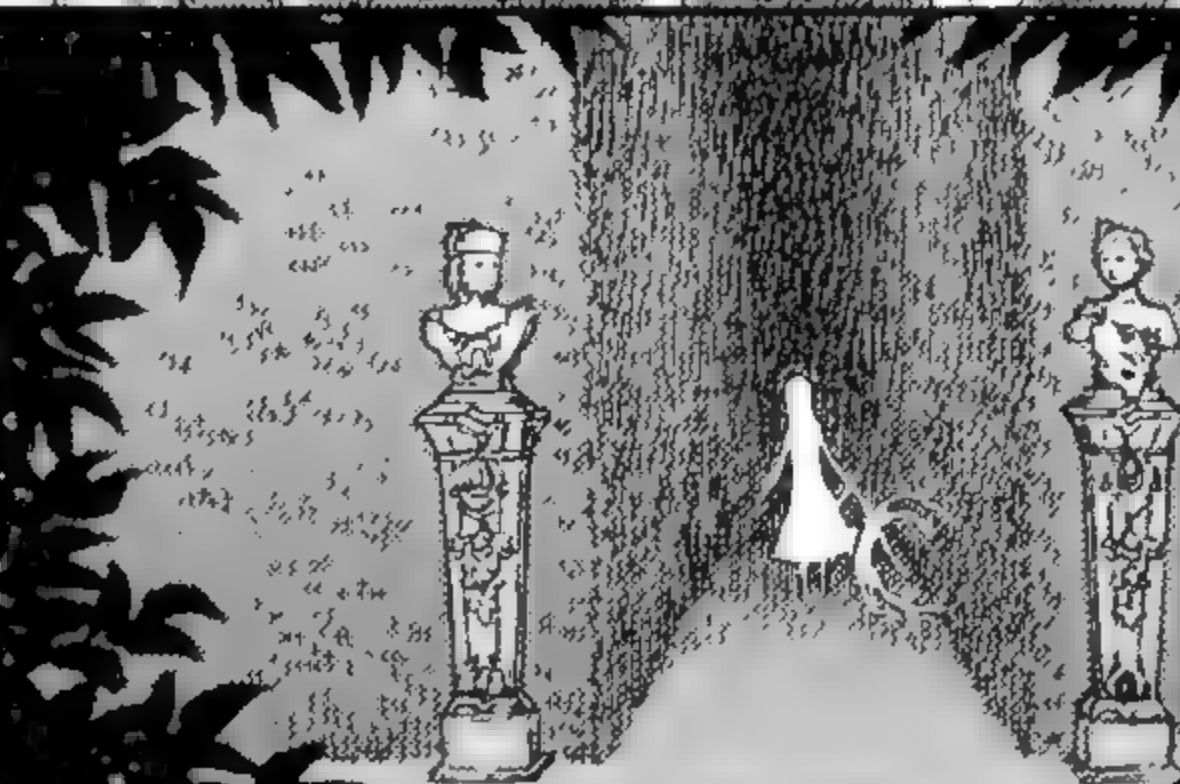


HE GAVE HIS TACIT  
CONSENT WHEN THE  
HOLY SEE'S PRIESTS  
MADE YOU THE LEADER  
OF THE HOLY IRON CHAIN  
KNIGHTS, THOUGH  
YOU KNOW NOTHING,  
AND NOW SEE HOW  
HE SPEAKS TO YOU.

INSTEAD,  
FATHER  
DESERVES  
THE BLAME.

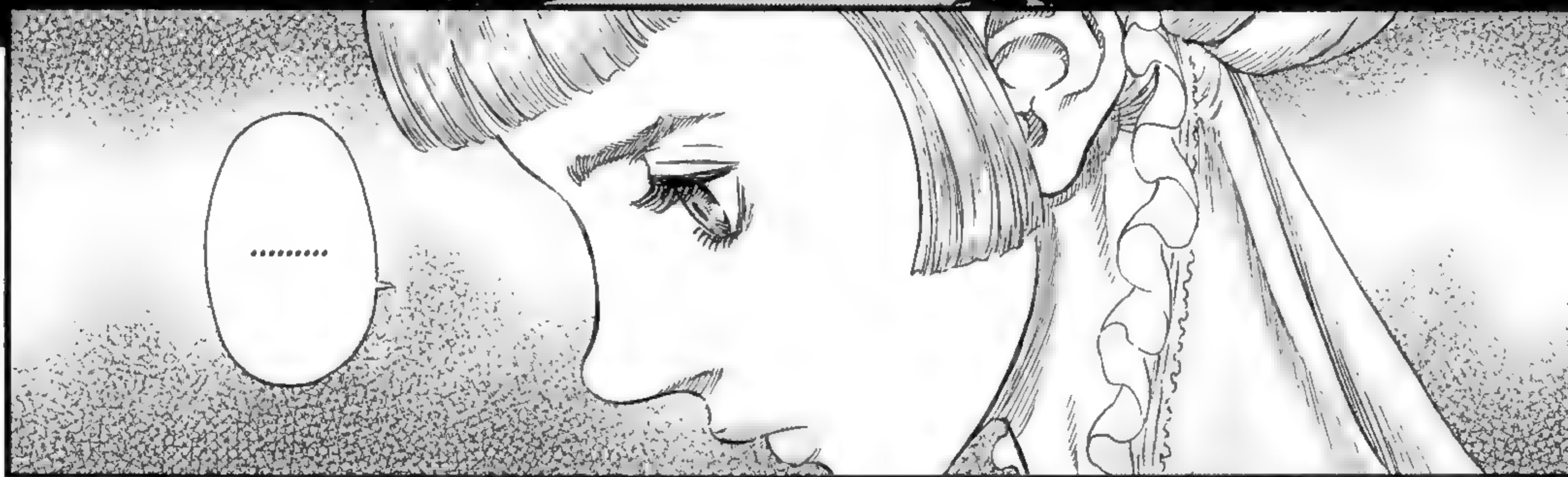


THIS GIRL,  
WANDERING  
THE HUGE  
GARDEN ALL  
ALONE, LIKE  
SOME KIND OF  
GHOST.



I REMEMBER  
WHEN I'D VISIT  
THE MANSION IN  
THE HOLY CITY,  
I'D SEE HER.

THAT  
ISN'T  
ALL.



THAT'S HARDLY  
WHAT THAT WAS.  
HE JUST AIMLESSLY  
LEFT YOU TO  
YOURSELF.

HE DID  
NOTHING SHORT  
OF ABANDONING  
HIS RESPONSIBILITIES  
AS A PARENT.



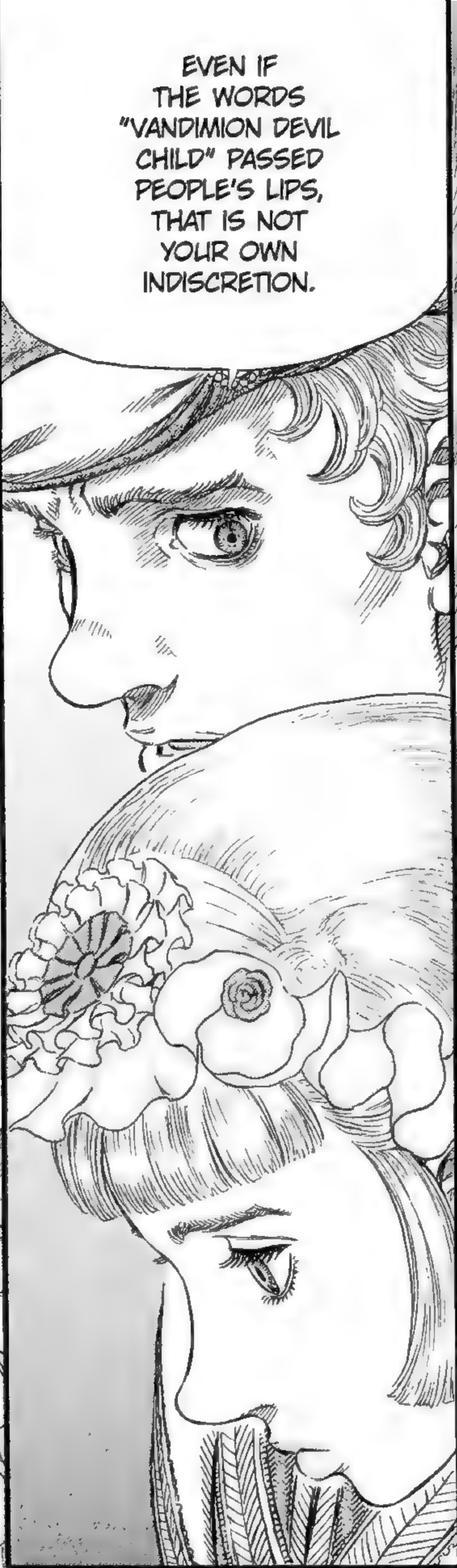
WAS HE  
RAISING A PURE  
FLOWER IN A  
GREENHOUSE TO  
PROTECT IT FROM  
THE UNCLEANNES-  
S OF THE  
OUTSIDE  
WORLD...?







**DEVIL  
CHILD...**



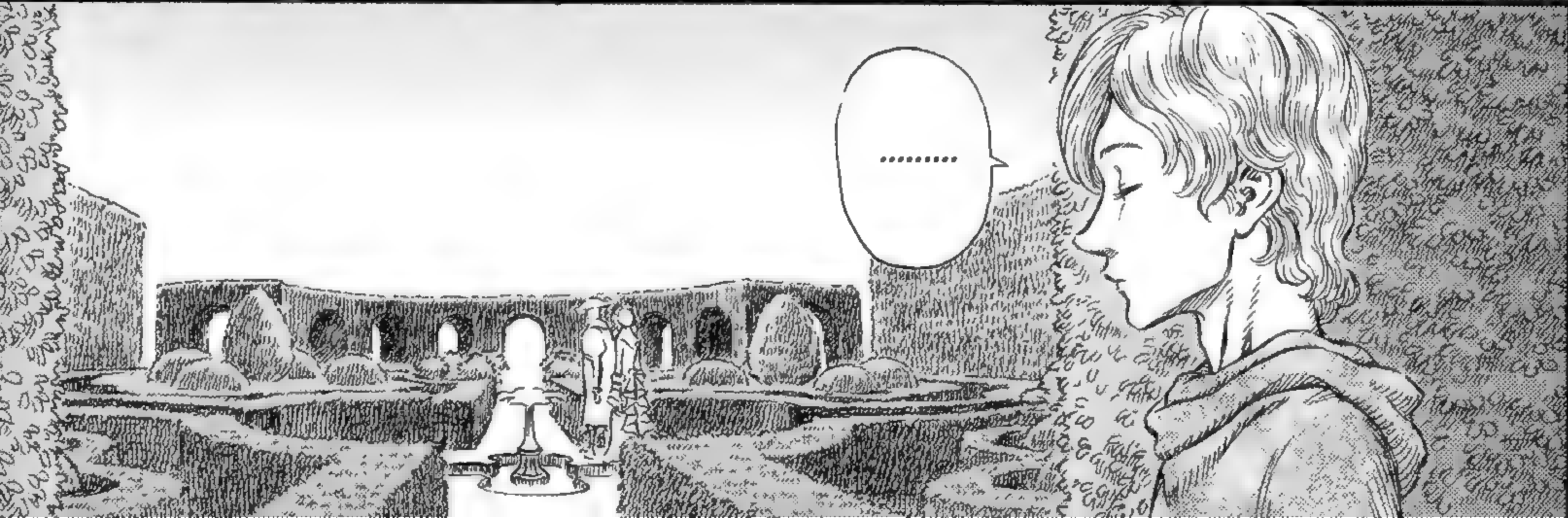
EVEN IF  
THE WORDS  
"VANDIMION DEVIL  
CHILD" PASSED  
PEOPLE'S LIPS,  
THAT IS NOT  
YOUR OWN  
INDISCRETION.



EVEN  
WHEN YOU  
SET FIRE  
TO THE  
MANSION...

...FATHER  
WAS THE ONE  
TO BLAME  
FOR GOADING  
HIS ONLY  
DAUGHTER  
THAT FAR.

I...



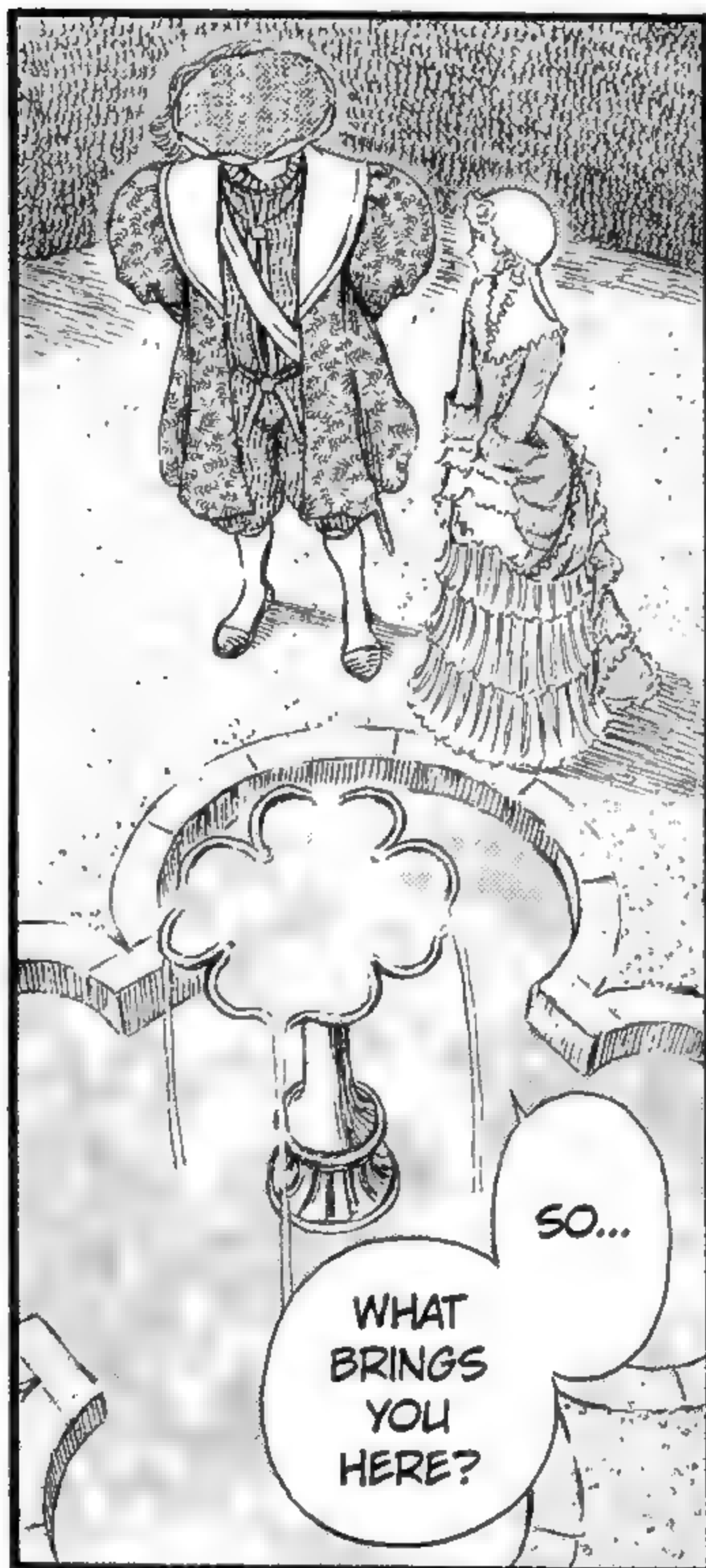
.....





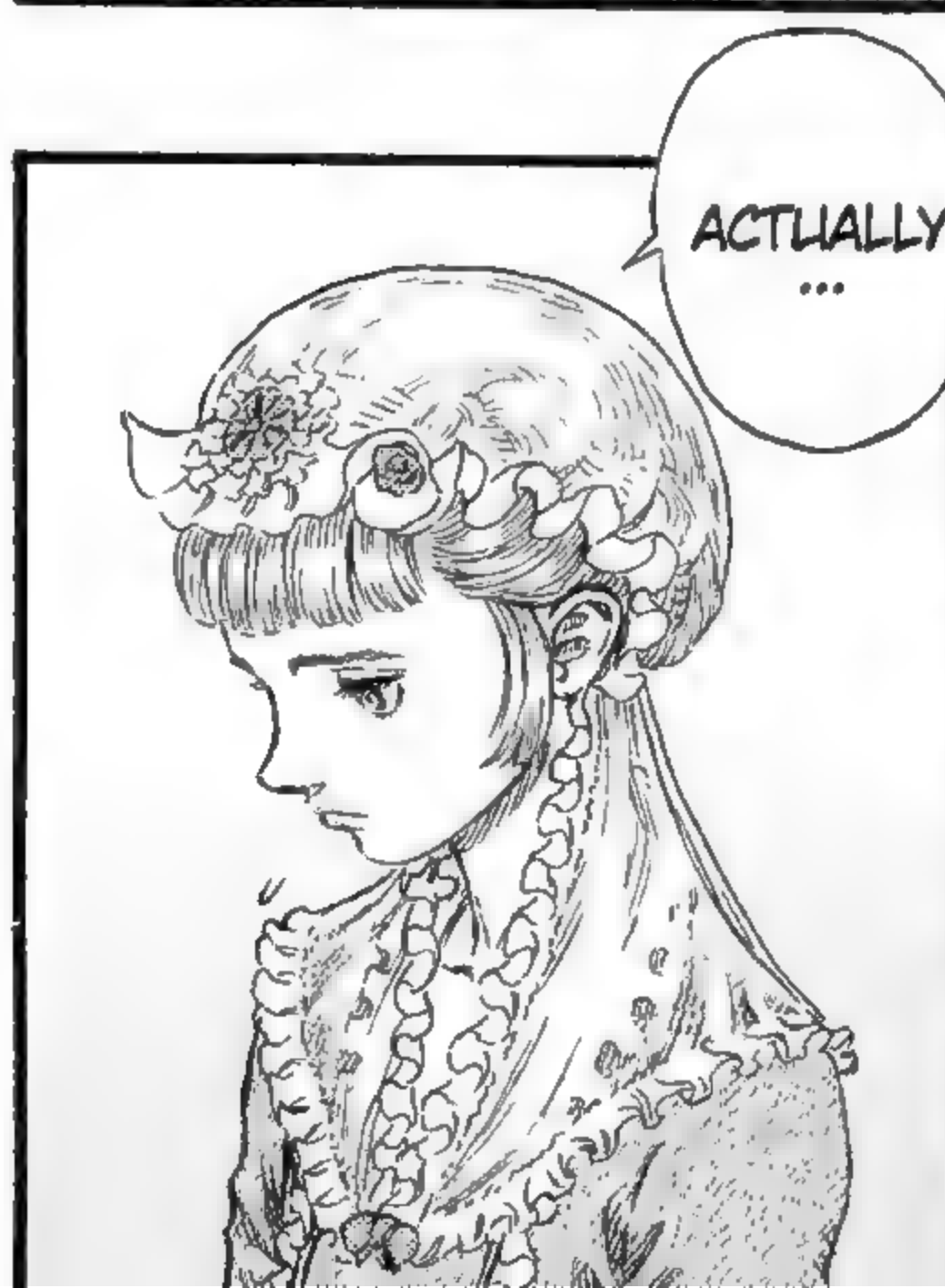
IT'S NOT  
THAT I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND  
HOW YOU  
FEEL.

EH...?

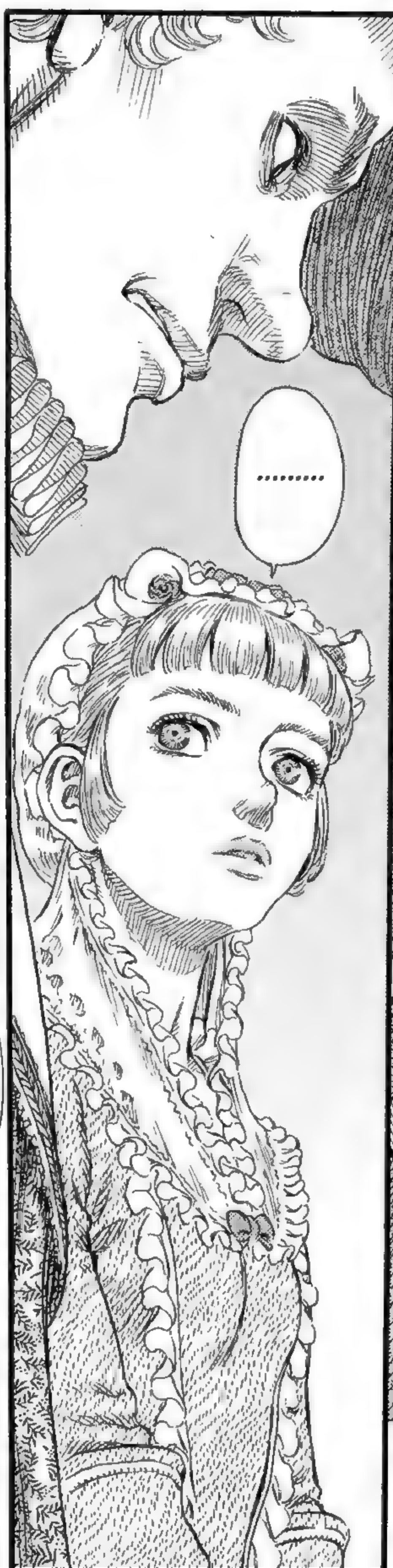


SO...

WHAT  
BRINGS  
YOU  
HERE?



ACTUALLY  
...



.....

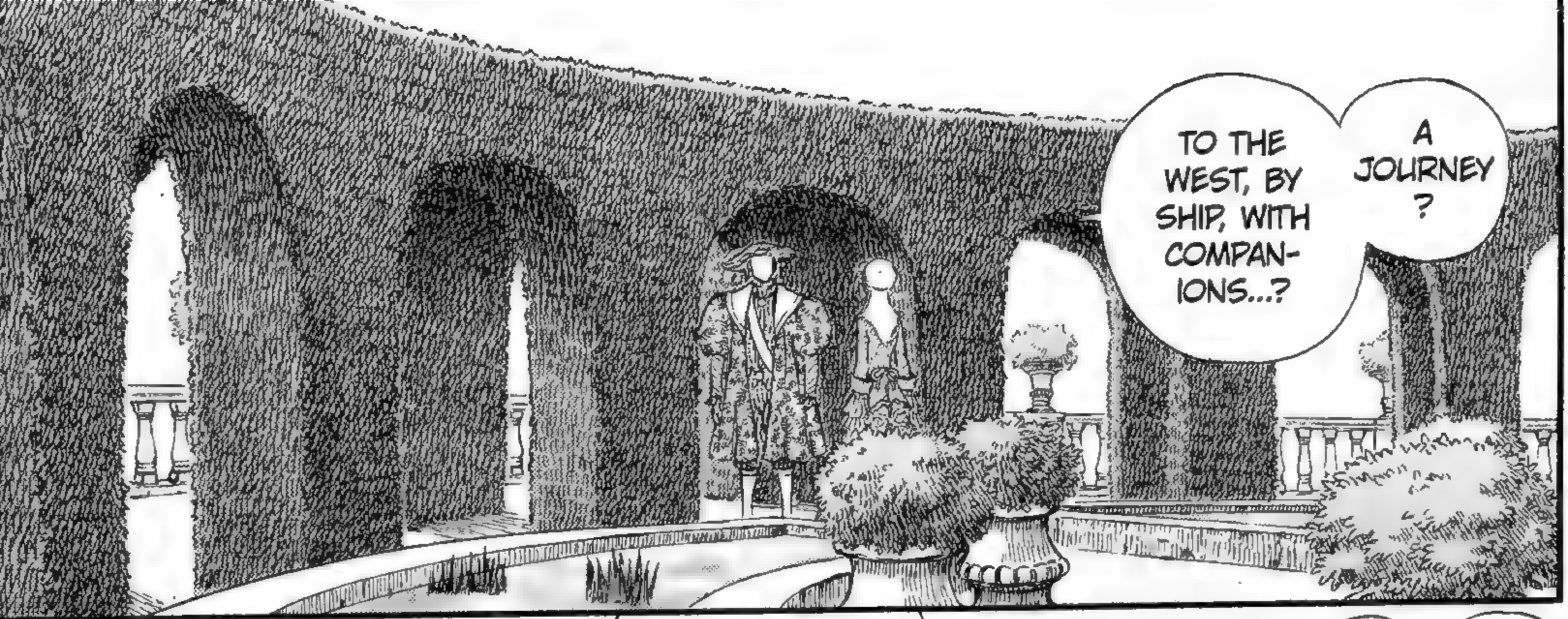
INFERIOR  
PRODUCTS  
THAT DON'T  
MEET HIS  
APPROVAL ARE  
CAST OFF  
WITHOUT  
HESITATION OR  
ANY SHOW OF  
CONCERN!

THAT  
**BASTARD**  
THINKS OF  
HIS FAMILY AS  
NOTHING MORE  
THAN COGS  
IN THE GIANT  
MACHINE  
CALLED  
VANDIMION!



JUST AS IF  
THEY WERE  
STONES  
BY THE  
WAYSIDE...!





TO THE WEST, BY SHIP, WITH COMPANIONS...?

A JOURNEY ?



HM...

WE TALKED WITH TRADERS THROUGHOUT VRITANNIS, BUT EVERY SHIP WAS ENGAGED WITH THE WAR EFFORT...

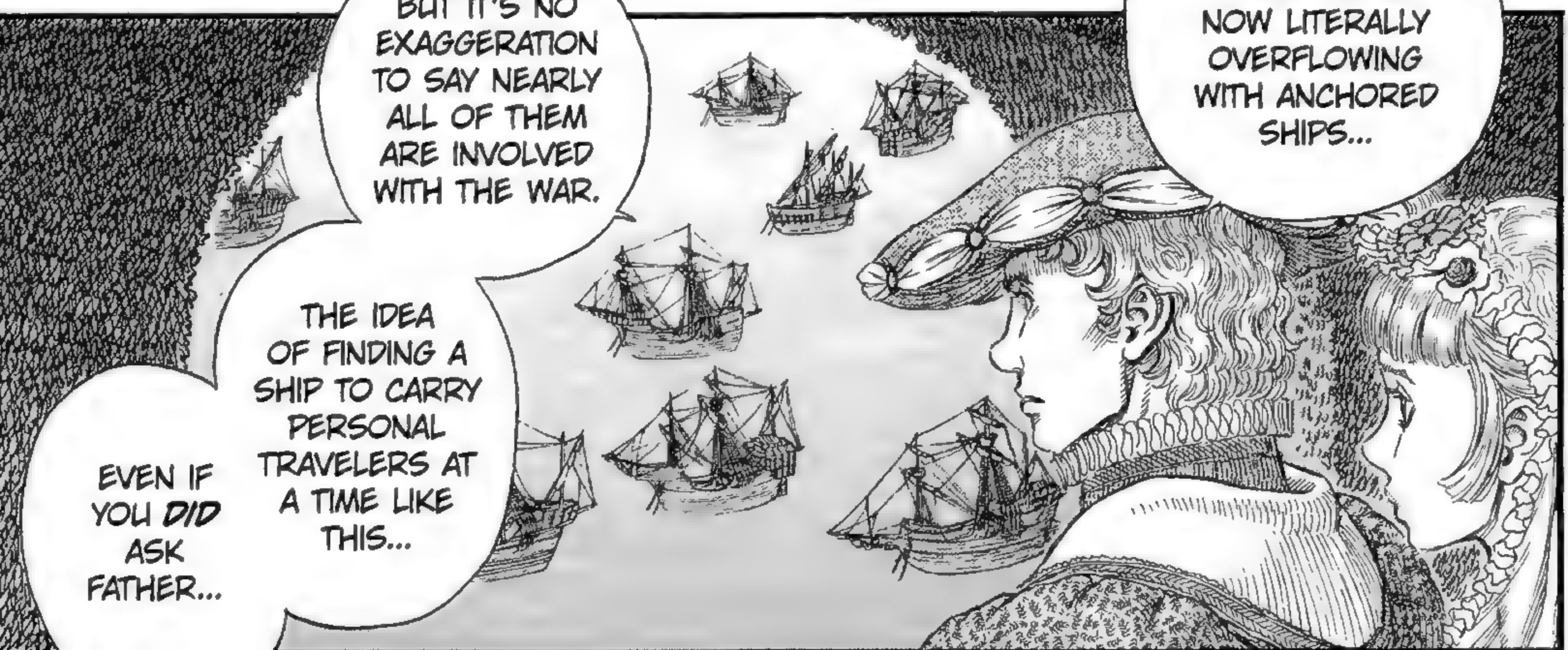
SO I THOUGHT TO SEE IF FATHER WOULD USE HIS INFLUENCE...



NO.

FOR A WOMAN, YOU...

RATHER, I GUESS THIS IS LIKE YOU.



BUT IT'S NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY NEARLY ALL OF THEM ARE INVOLVED WITH THE WAR.

VRITANNIS IS NOW LITERALLY OVERFLOWING WITH ANCHORED SHIPS...

THE IDEA OF FINDING A SHIP TO CARRY PERSONAL TRAVELERS AT A TIME LIKE THIS...

EVEN IF YOU *DID* ASK FATHER...



.....

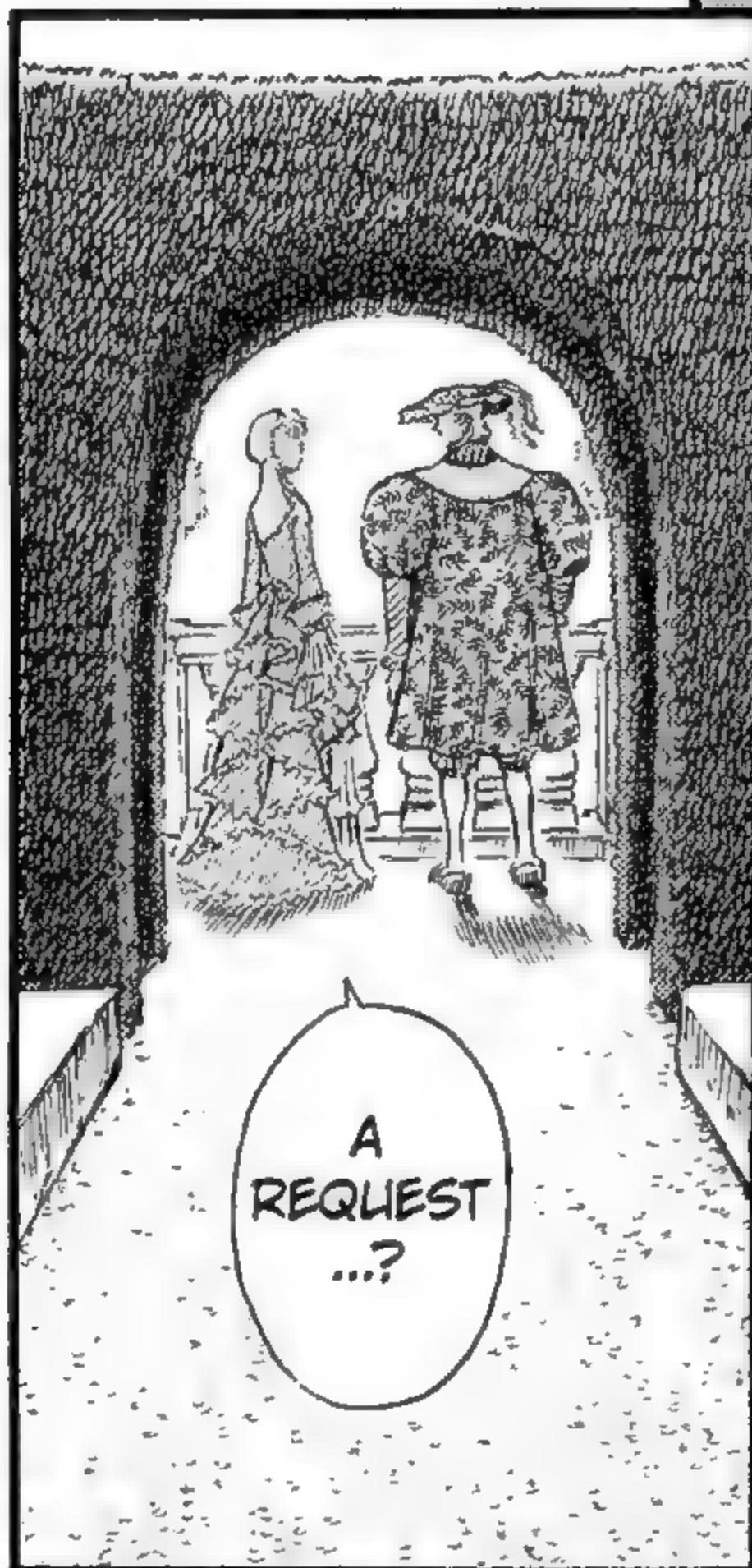




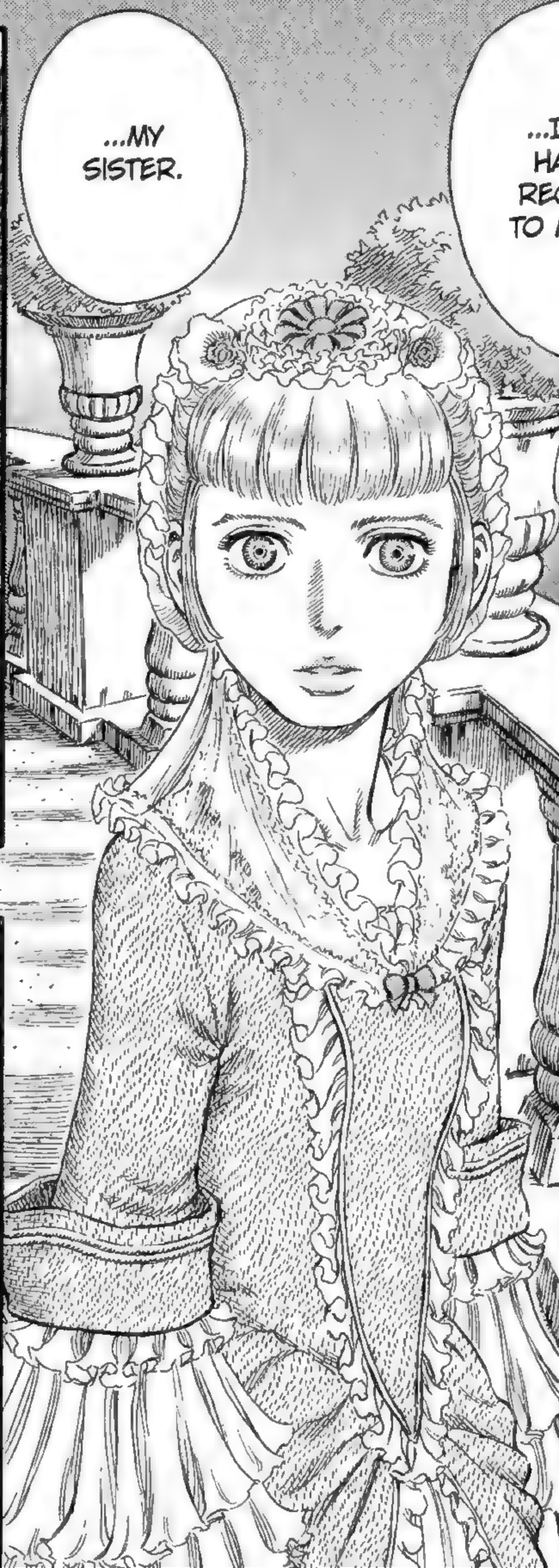
THAT  
WOULD  
NOT BE  
BEYOND  
MY  
POWER.

A  
SINGLE  
SHIP.

WHA...?



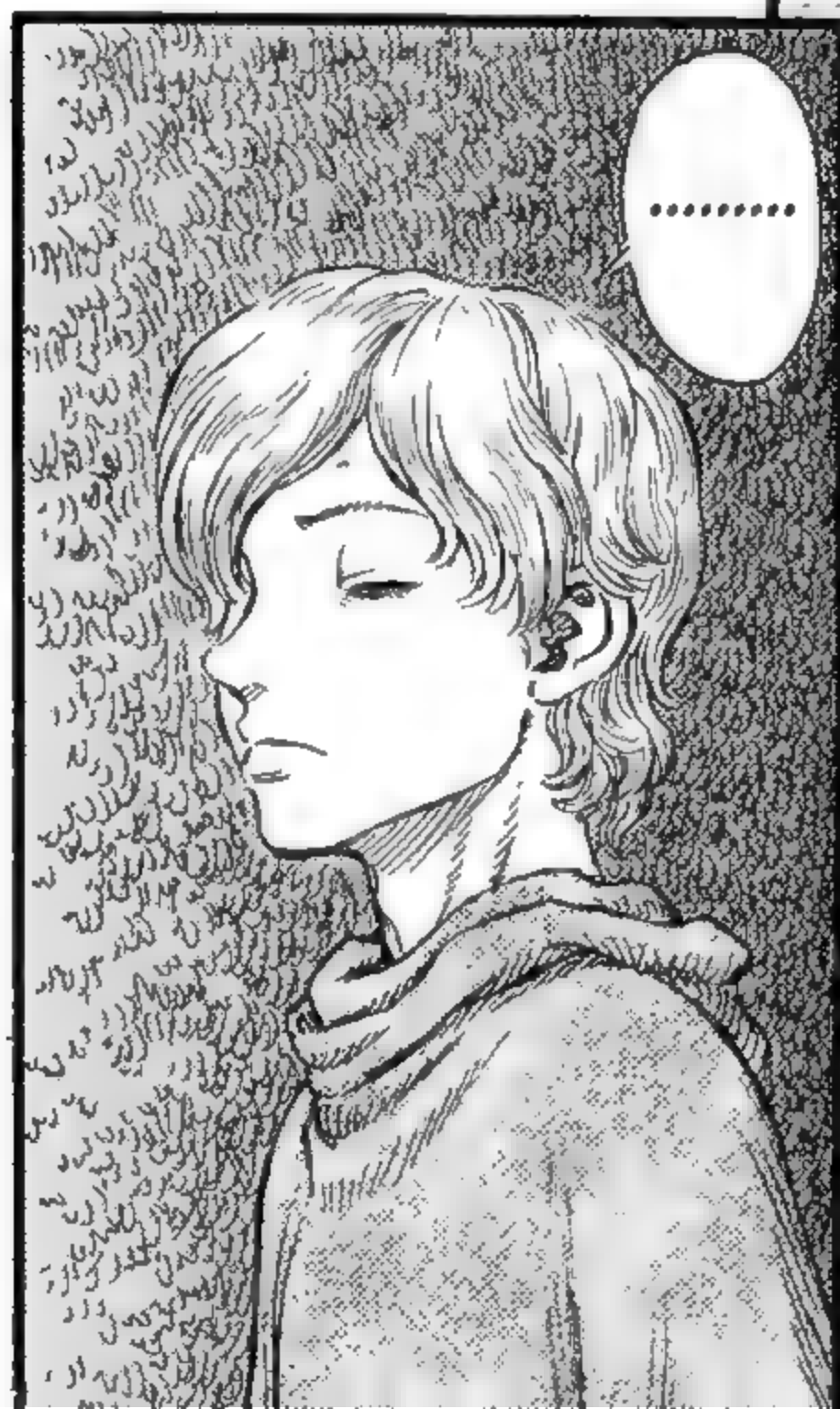
A  
REQUEST  
...?



...MY  
SISTER.

...I TOO  
HAVE A  
REQUEST  
TO MAKE...

BUT IN  
RETURN...



.....





GO!  
GO!

YEAH  
HHH!

BLOW  
PAST 'IM,  
CRABZALES!



DO IT!  
DO IT,  
CRABINGHAM!

WHAP WHAP

HELP  
OUT A  
LITTLE!

WOULD  
YOU  
STOP  
PLAYING  
AROUND  
?!

STAGGER

STAGGER

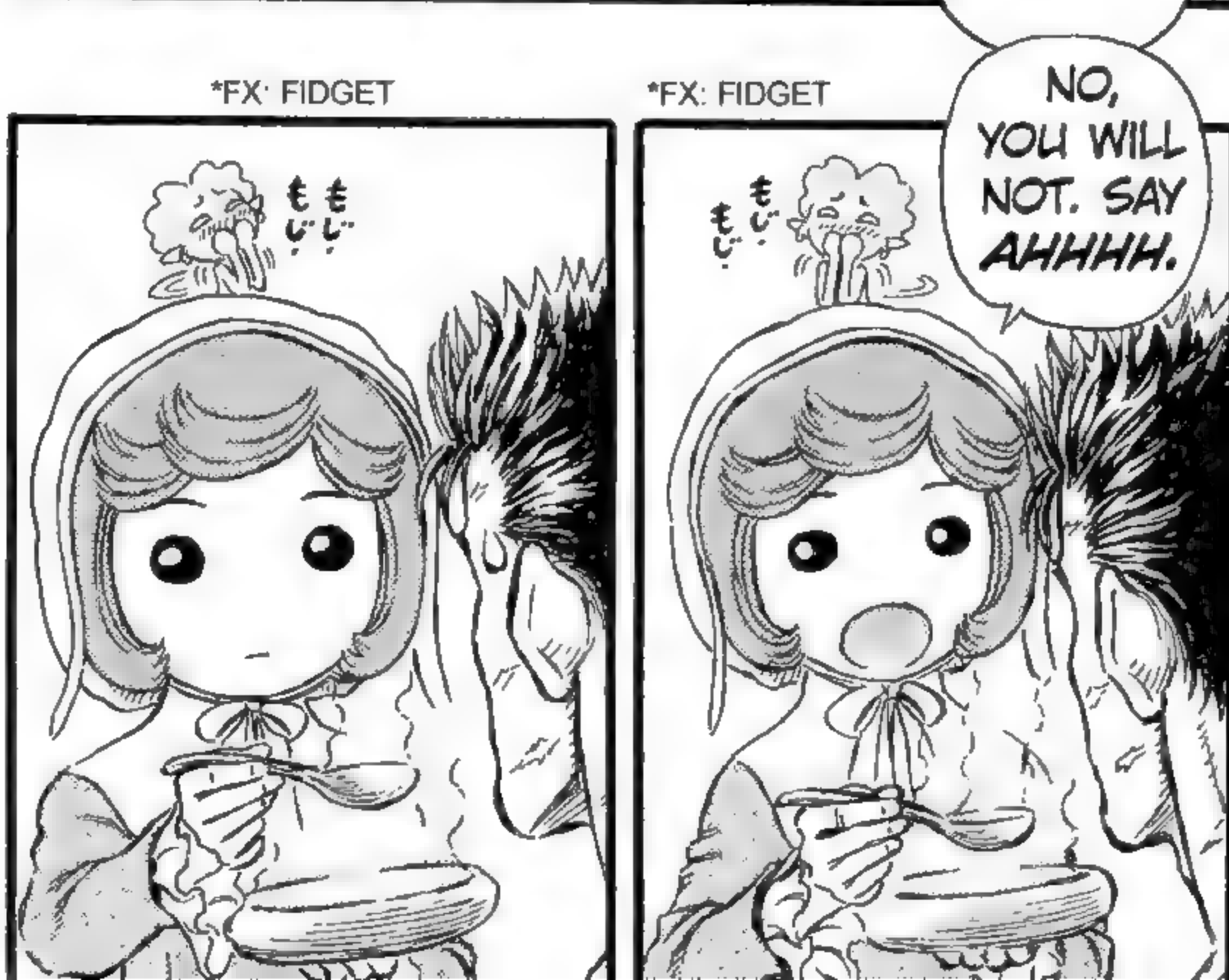
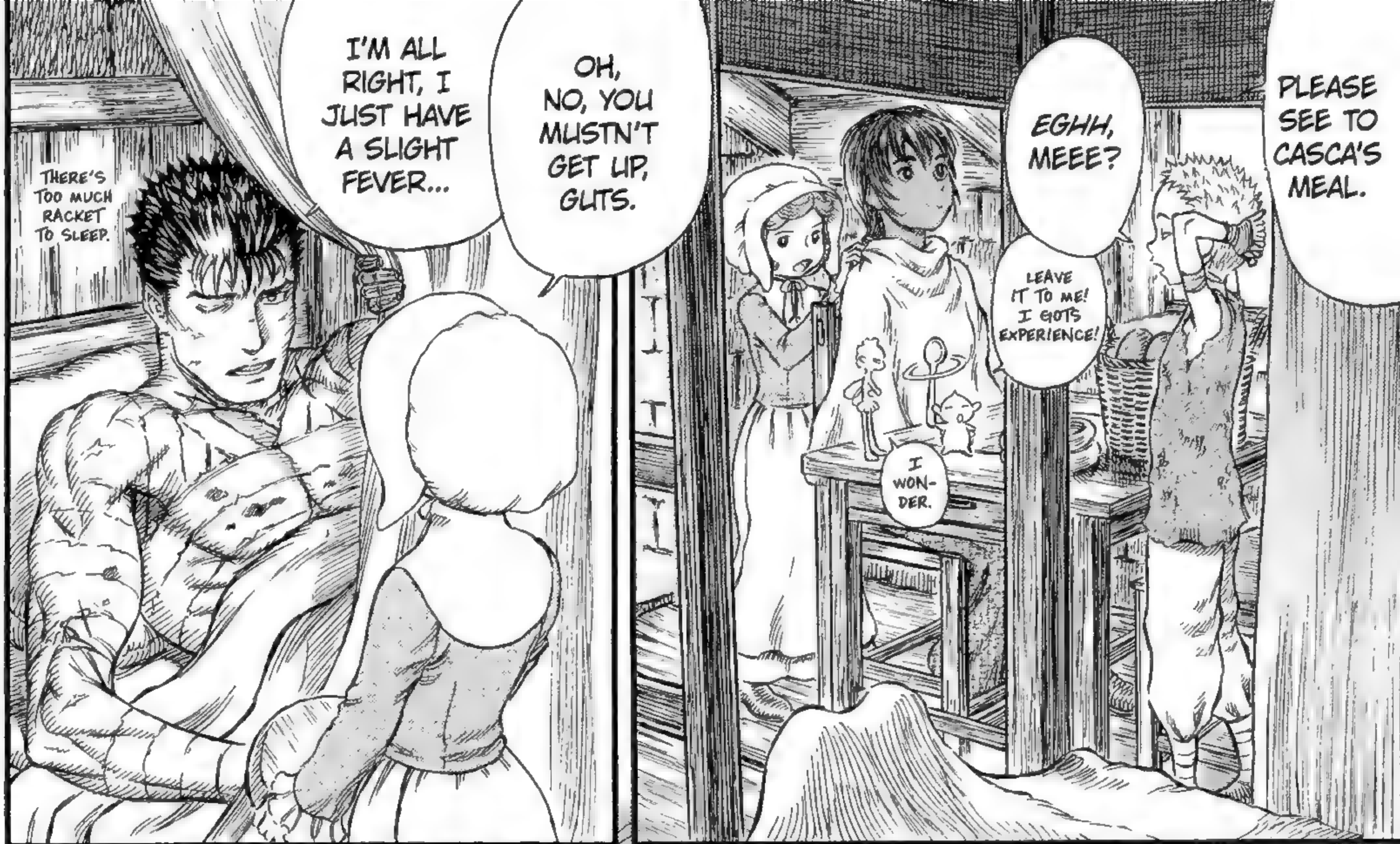
GOOD-  
FOR-  
NOTHIN'S!



FOR  
GOODNESS'  
SAKE, ALL  
OF YOU!

GREEE







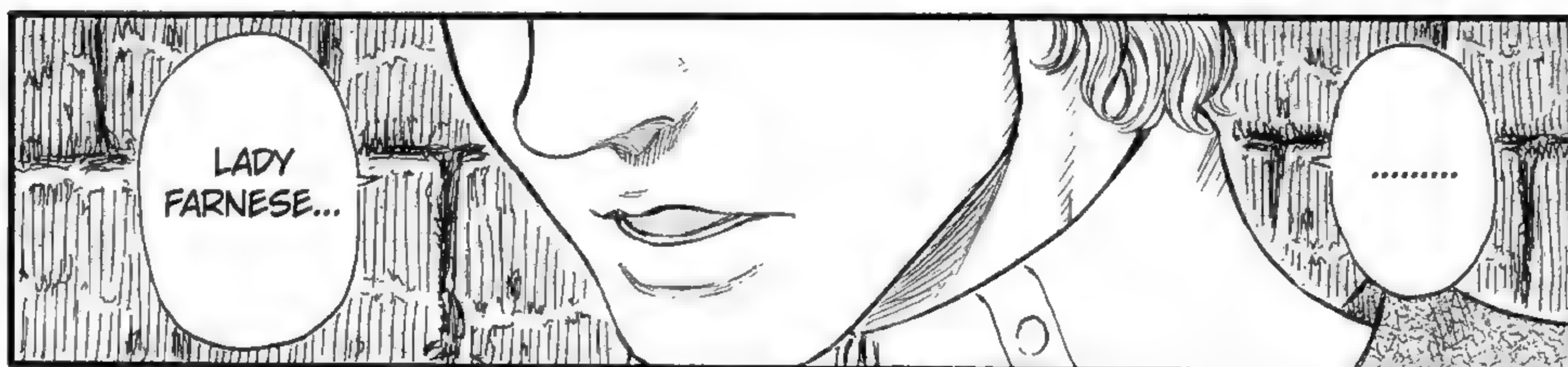


\*FX: GREE

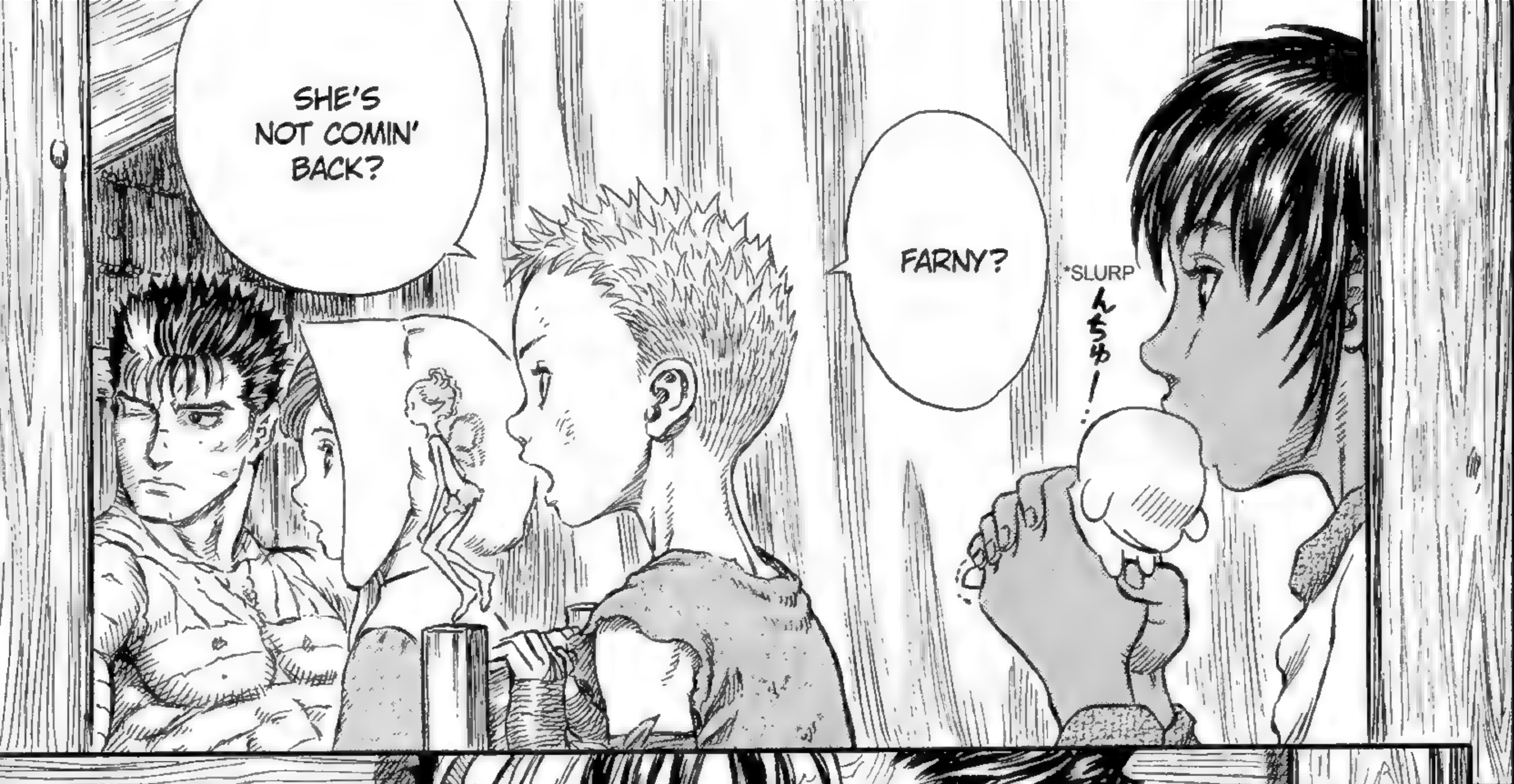
\*FX: NYAGHHH









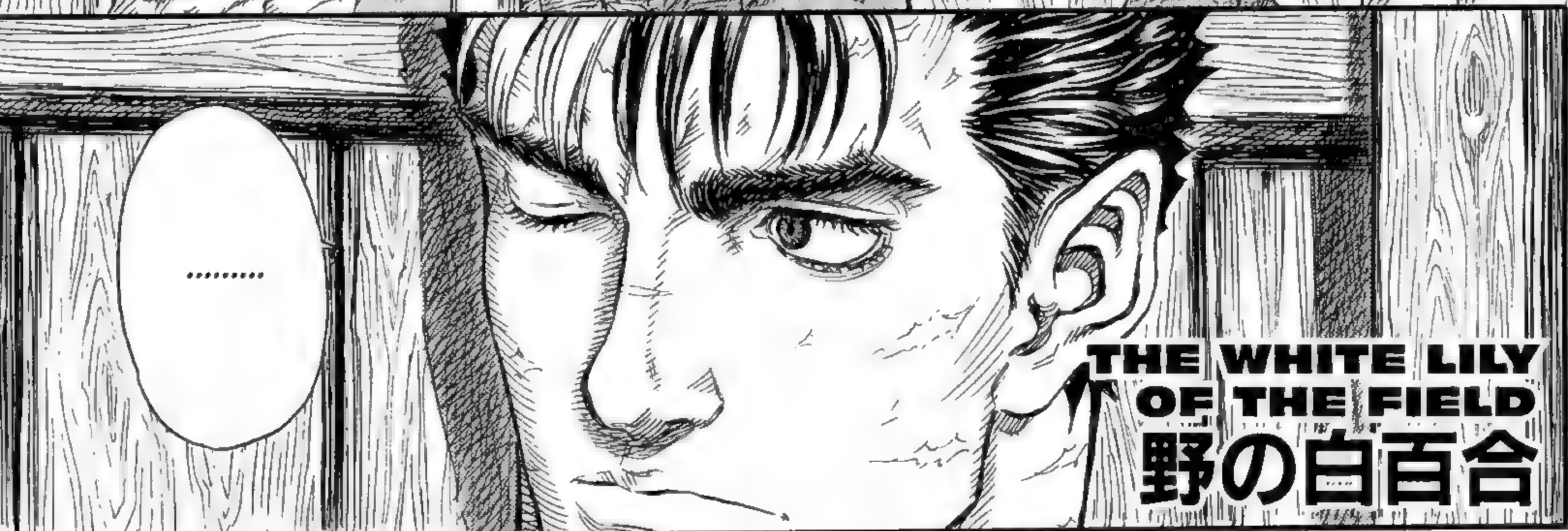


SHE'S  
NOT COMIN'  
BACK?

FARNY?

\*SLURP

んちゅ!



.....

THE WHITE LILY  
OF THE FIELD  
野の白百合



TAKE  
THIS.

WHO'S  
GONNA  
LOOK  
AFTER  
CASCA?

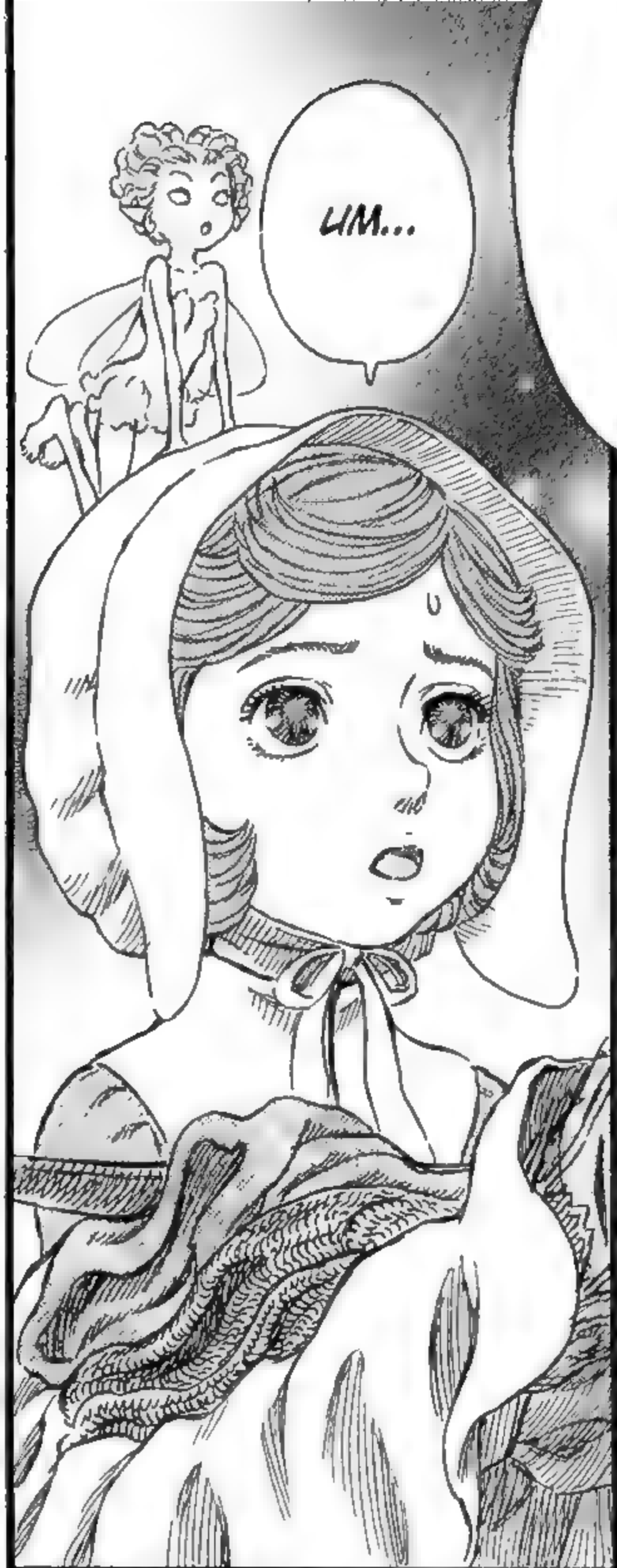
WHAT'S  
UP WITH  
THAT,  
SERPICO?

IF YOU SHOW THIS  
LETTER TO ANY TRADER IN  
THE CITY, YOU SHOULD BE  
ABLE TO ACQUIRE A SHIP  
AND AS MANY SAILORS AS  
YOU NEED. PLEASE DO  
NOT OPEN THE SEAL.

.....

AND,  
SCHIERKE  
...





UM...

THANK  
YOU VERY  
MUCH.



I AM  
RETURNING  
THESE  
BORROWED  
ITEMS.



IT AMOUNTS TO  
LITTLE, BUT OUR  
VANDIMION BANK  
SHALL SHOULDER  
THE BURDEN OF  
ANY AND ALL  
EXPENDITURES  
YOUR GROUP  
INCURS WHILE  
IN THIS CITY.



ON BEHALF OF  
THE VANDIMION  
FAMILY, I OFFER  
THE SINCEREST  
GRATITUDE FOR  
SAFELY RETURNING  
THE HEAD OF  
THE FAMILY'S  
DAUGHTER,  
FARNESE DO  
VANDIMION, TO  
THIS PLACE.

\*FWEEEE





NOW,  
BY YOUR  
LEAVE...

AGAIN,  
I EXTEND  
OUR  
FORMAL  
THANKS.



THERE'S NO HARM  
IN AT LEAST TELLING  
US THE REASON,  
IS THERE?



HEY.



W...

WAIT,  
SERPICO,  
PLEASE  
...!







THERE IS  
NOTHING  
FOR ME  
TO SAY  
ON THIS  
MATTER.



I WANTED  
TO TRY  
HAVIN'  
A FIGHT  
WITH YOU  
AGAIN.

...MOTIVA-  
TION NO  
LONGER  
EXISTS.

THAT...



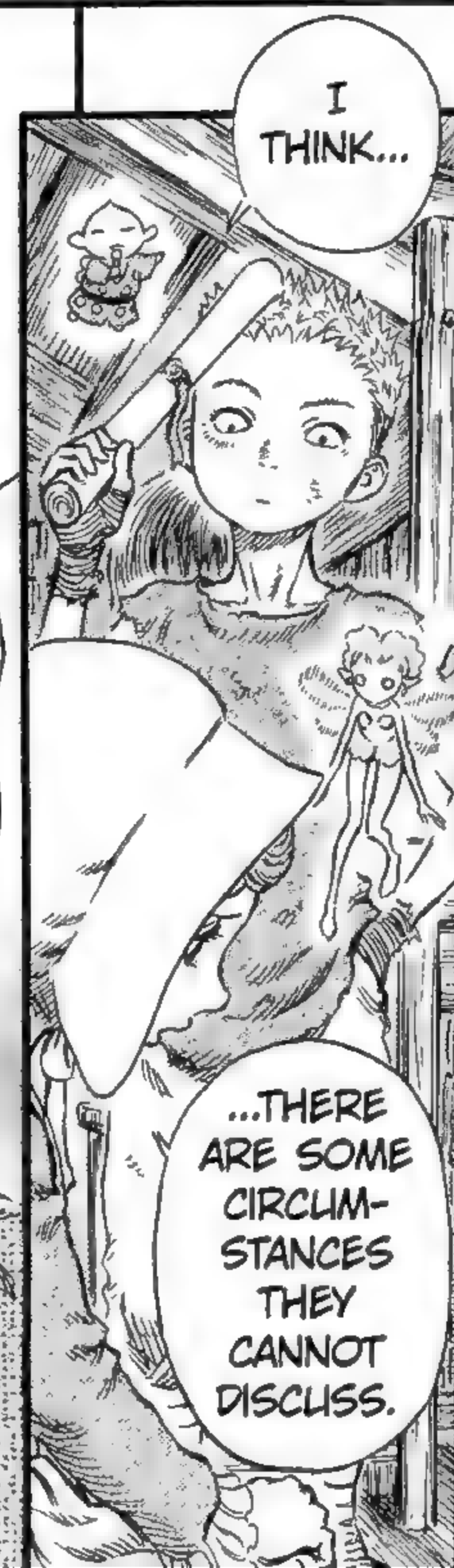




\*TMP TMP



WHAT GIVES...?  
WE'VE ALL CHEATED  
DEATH TOGETHER SO  
MUCH, AND IN THE  
END IT'S A SCRAP  
OF PAPER AND  
"HAVE A NICE LIFE"?  
THIS'S WHY I CAN'T  
STAND ARISTOCRATS.  
BUT,  
AH WELL.



...AND  
TAKING  
CARE OF  
CASCA!  
SO TO  
SUDDENLY  
DO  
THIS...

WHEN  
I TOUCHED  
SERPICO'S  
HAND  
FOR AN  
INSTANT...





AHH!  
I CAN'T TAKE  
MY EYES OFF  
HER FOR A  
SECOND!

.....



BLASH

ハッ  
チッ



...PEOPLE'S  
AFFAIRS,  
BUT...

IT AIN'T  
LIKE ME  
TO POKE  
MY HEAD  
INTO...



HEY!  
WHAT'S  
WITH THE  
PLURAL?!

HEY,  
SHORT-  
STUFFS.



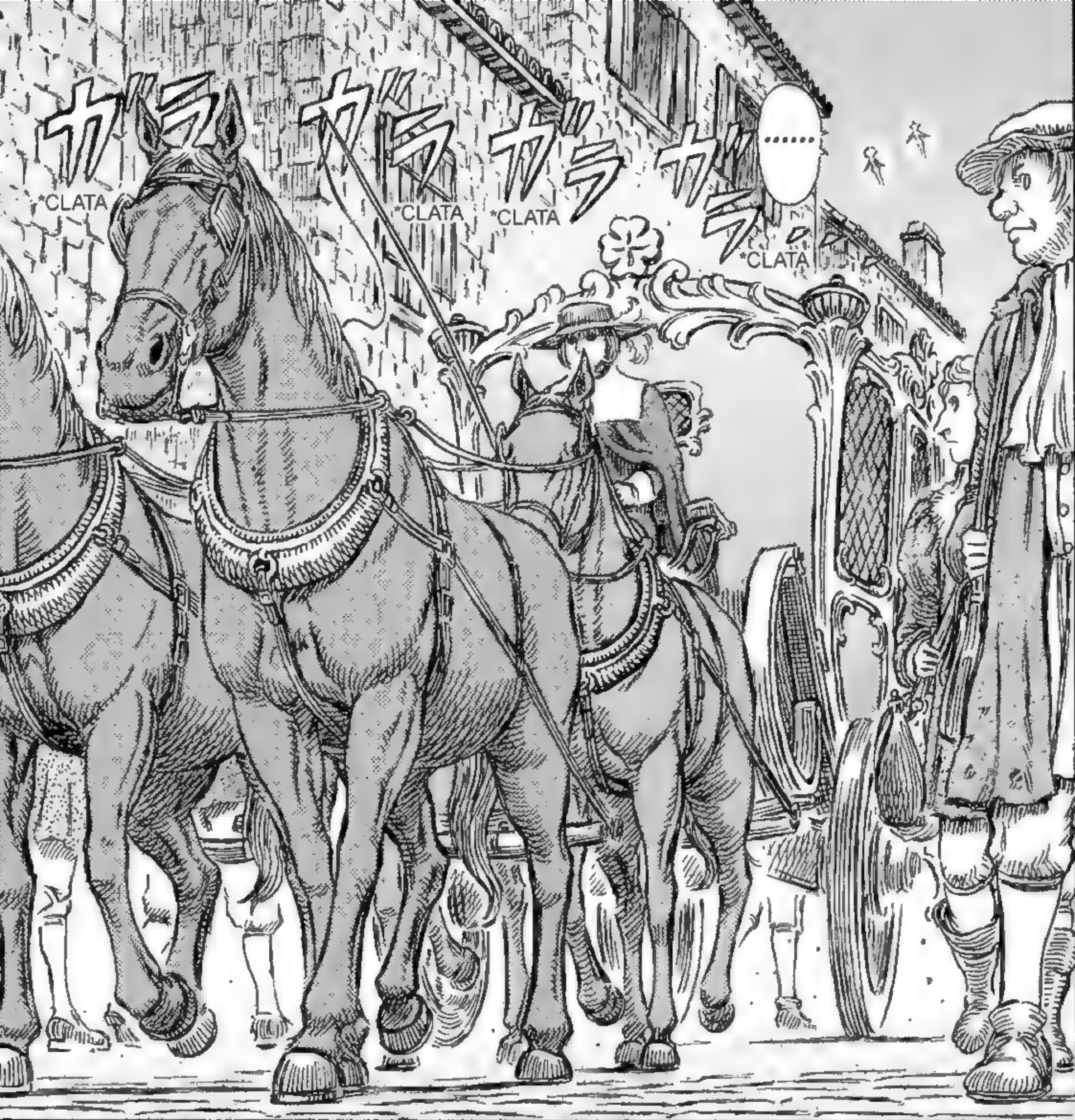
I'VE GOT  
A FAVOR TO  
ASK. IT'S AN  
ELF-ONLY  
JOB.



THIS  
DEFINITELY...

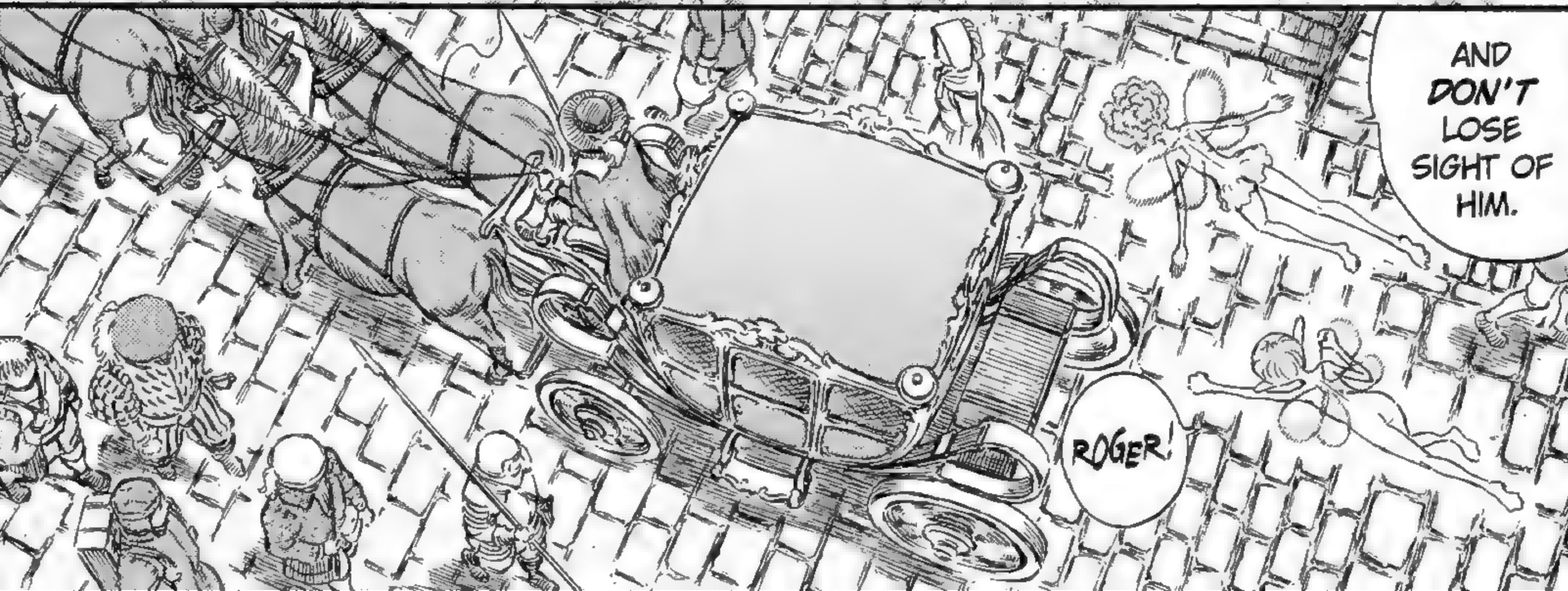
...DOESN'T  
SEEM  
RIGHT.





JUST  
DON'T HAVE  
TOO MUCH  
FUN.

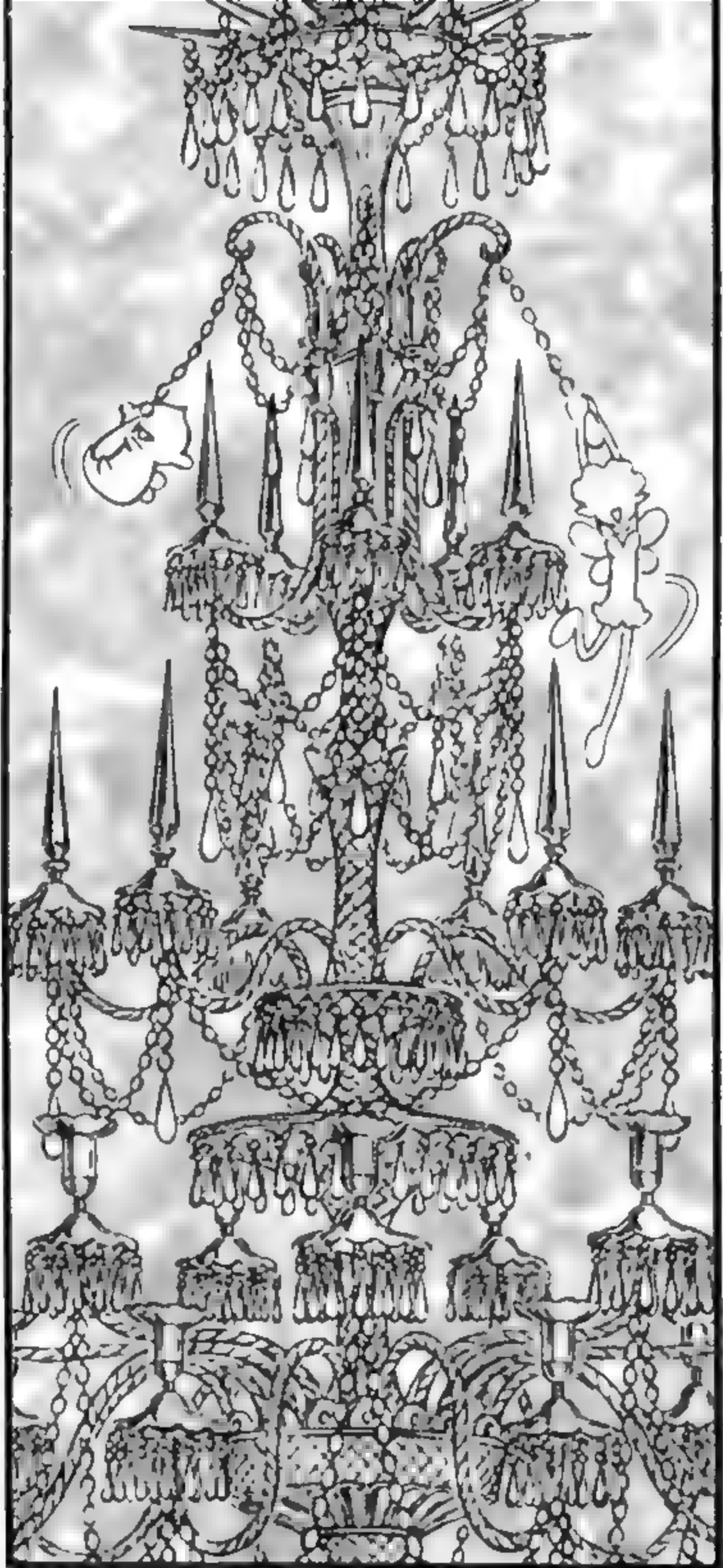
THIS IS  
KINDA WILD...  
"ARISTOCRATIC  
STATELY  
MANSION  
INFILTRATION  
REPORT."



AND  
DON'T  
LOSE  
SIGHT OF  
HIM.

ROGER!









BUT  
WE LOST  
SIGHT OF  
SERPY...  
-URP-

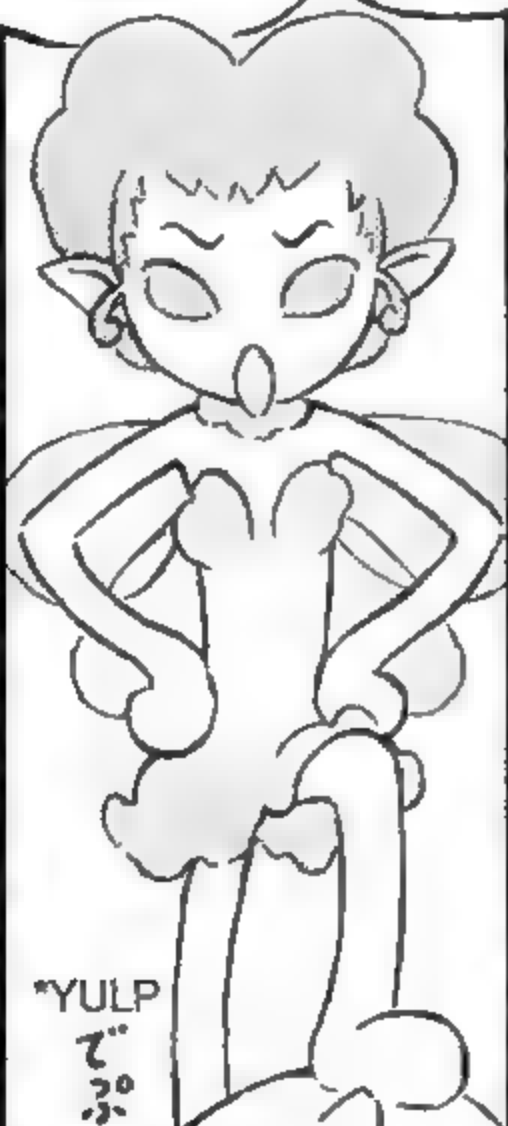
THE  
DINNER  
SWEETS  
...?!

WHEWWW.  
I'M  
STULLUFFED.  
ANHH,  
CELEBRITY  
LIFE.  
♡



WELL!  
WHO'S SHE  
THINK SHE IS,  
DRESSED UP  
LIKE A  
PRINCESS?!  
SHE'S JUST A  
SERVANT!  
MINE!

THERE  
GOES  
FARNESE!



\*YULP  
7°

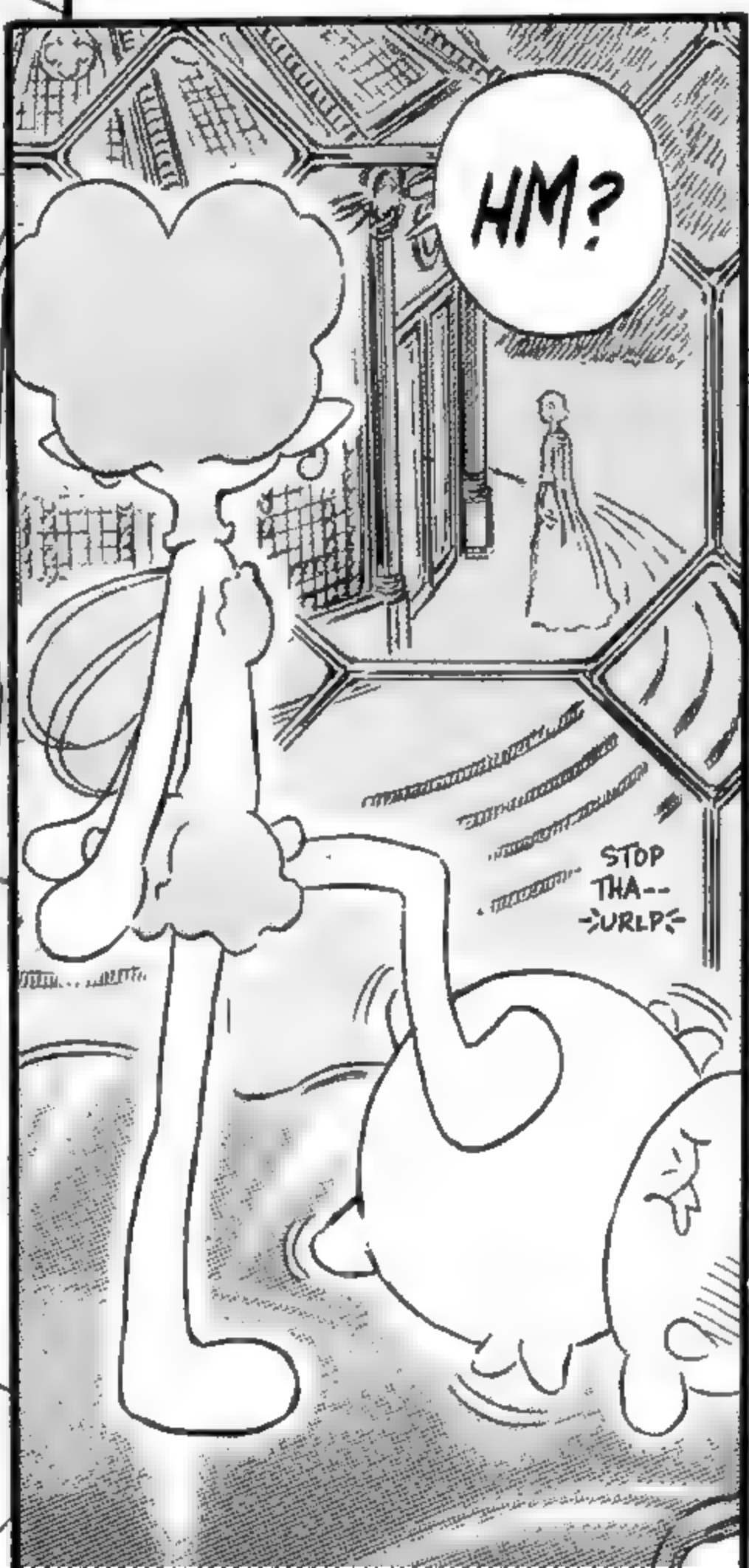


HOW CAN  
YOU JUST  
EAT 'N'  
SLEEP?!  
GET IT  
TOGETHER!  
THIS IS  
SERIOUS  
BUSINESS!

TH-  
THAT'S  
RIGHT!

\*ULLP  
7°

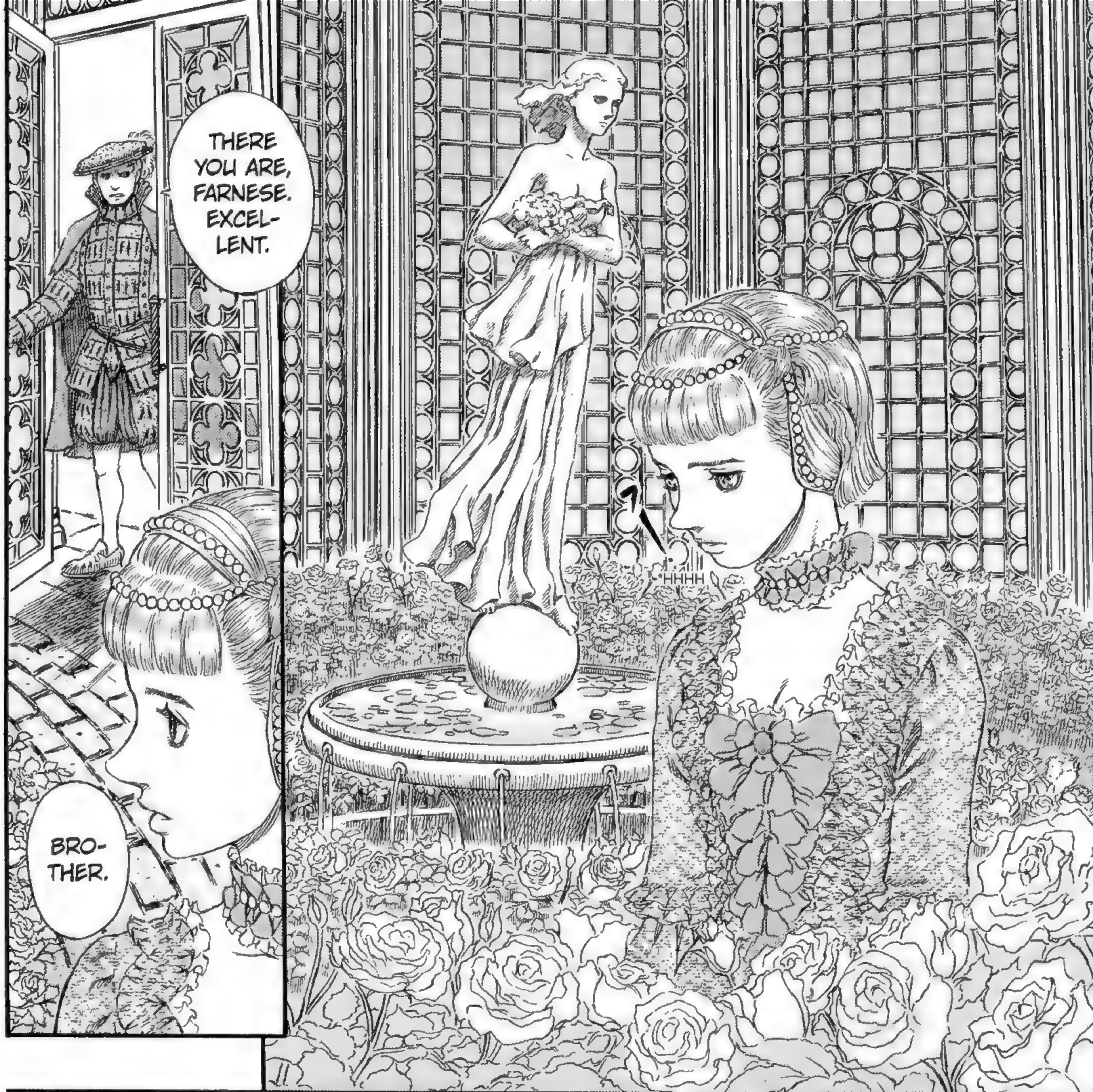
\*FX: BONK



HM?

STOP  
THA--  
-URLP-









I AM  
RODERICK OF  
SCHTAUFFEN...

IT IS A  
PLEASURE  
TO MEET  
YOU,  
FARNESE DO  
VANDIMION.

...AN  
OFFICER OF  
THE 11TH  
NAVY.







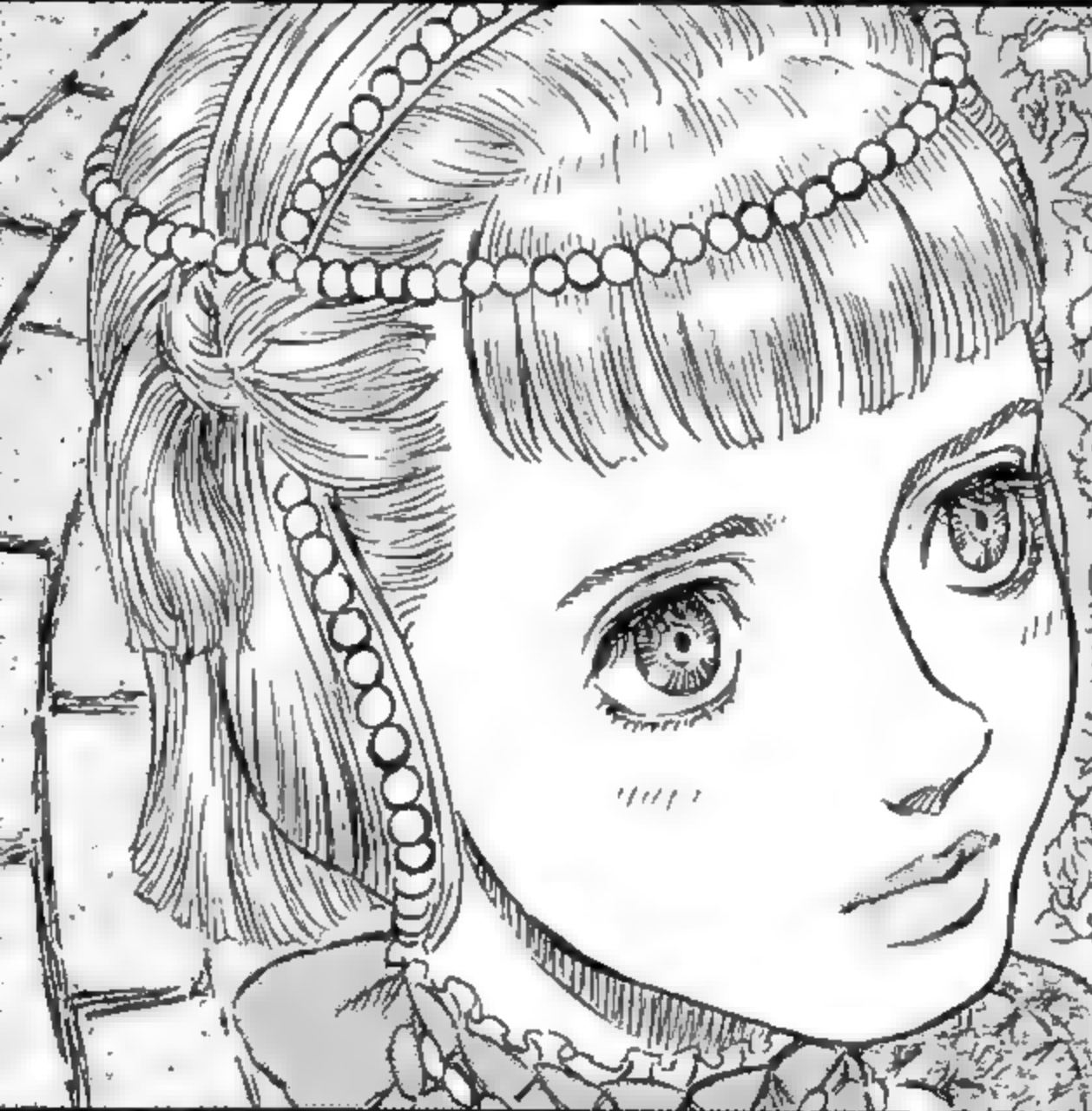




I HAVE  
HEARD MUCH  
ABOUT YOU  
FROM YOUR  
BROTHER.



RODERICK IS AN OLD  
FRIEND FROM MY COLLEGE  
DAYS. HE'S THIRD IN LINE  
TO THE ROYAL THRONE OF  
IITH AND A SHIP'S CAPTAIN  
IN THE IITH NAVY.



...AND THE  
WANDERING  
PRINCESS.



ABOUT THE  
VANDIMION  
DEVIL CHILD...



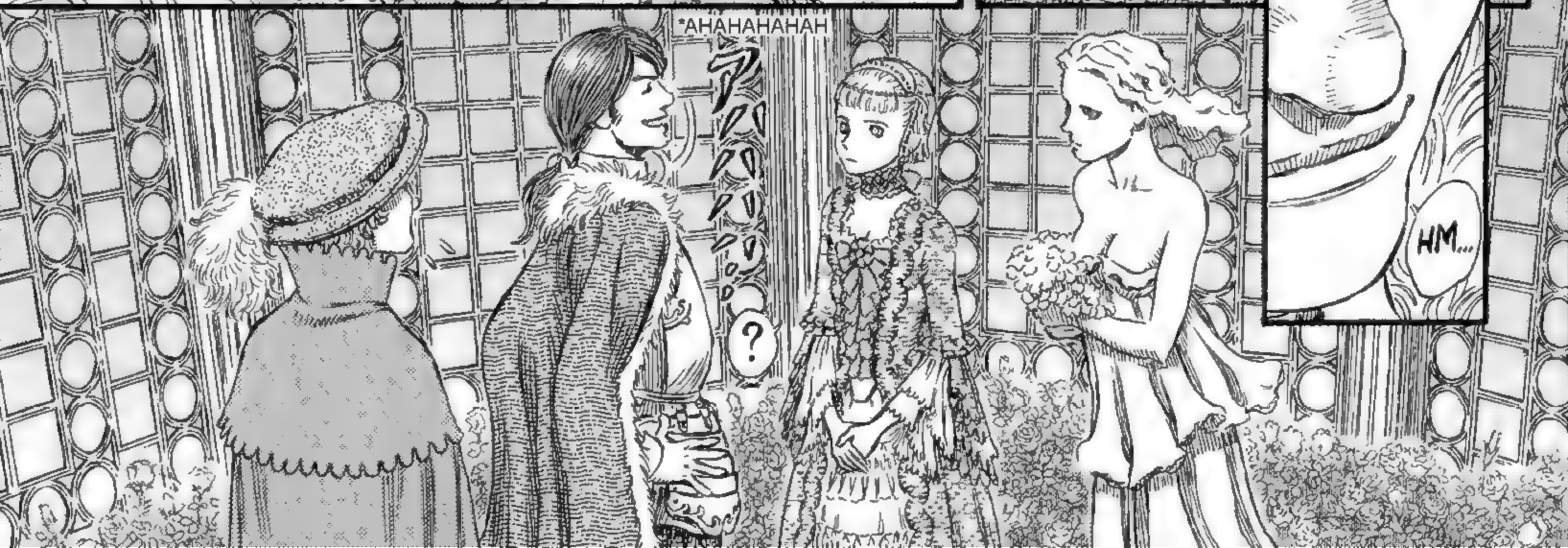
YES.

THAT IS  
CORRECT.



THAT'S  
KIND OF  
ABRUPT...

UH,  
RODERICK.

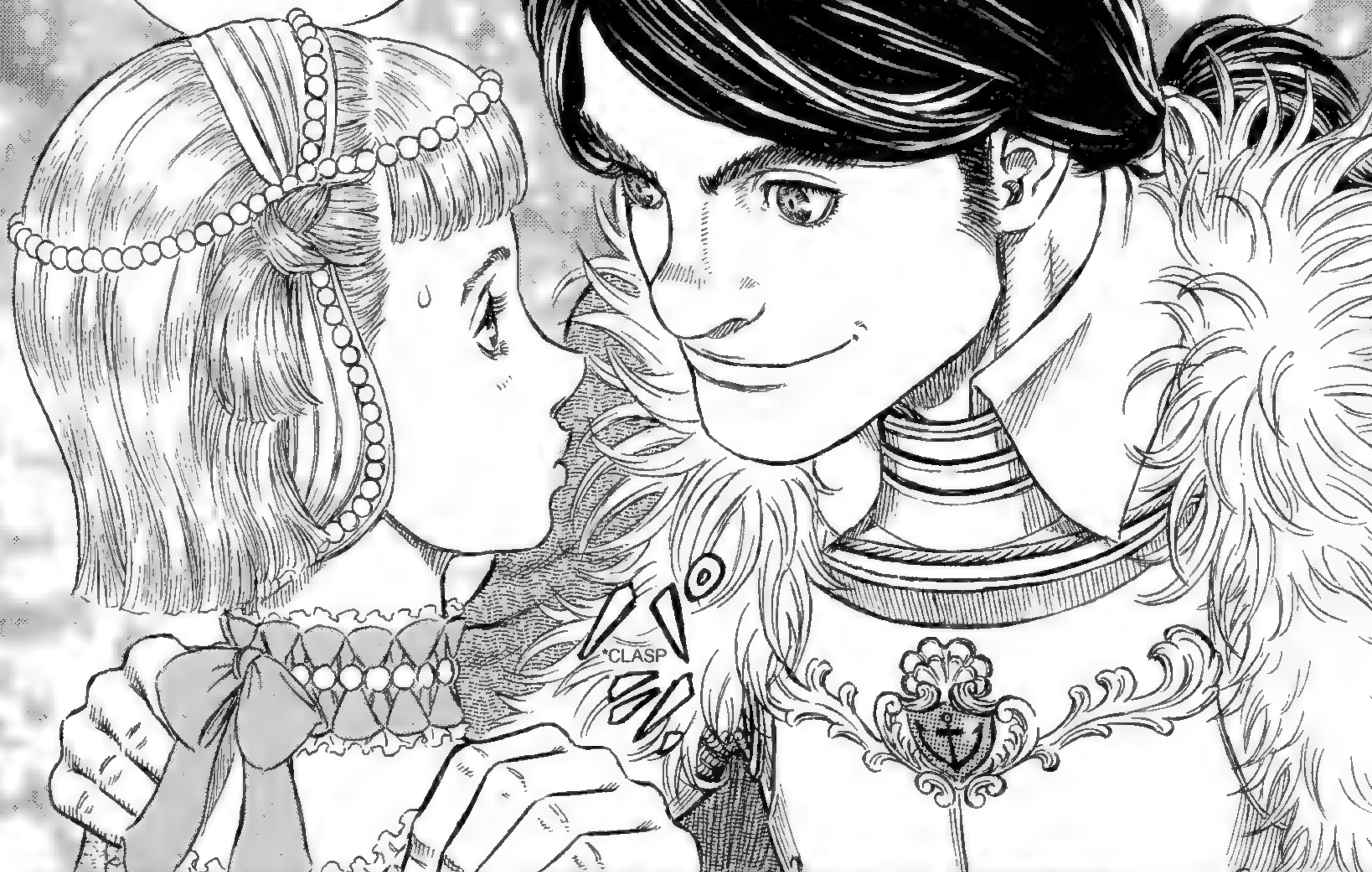


\*AHAAHAHAH

HM...



YOU ARE  
INTERESTING.



LOOK  
AROUND,  
FARNESE ...

フホッ  
AHEM

RODERICK'S  
GIVEN THEM  
ALL TO YOU.

...AT THE  
ROSES  
SPREAD  
THROUGHOUT  
THIS GREEN-  
HOUSE.







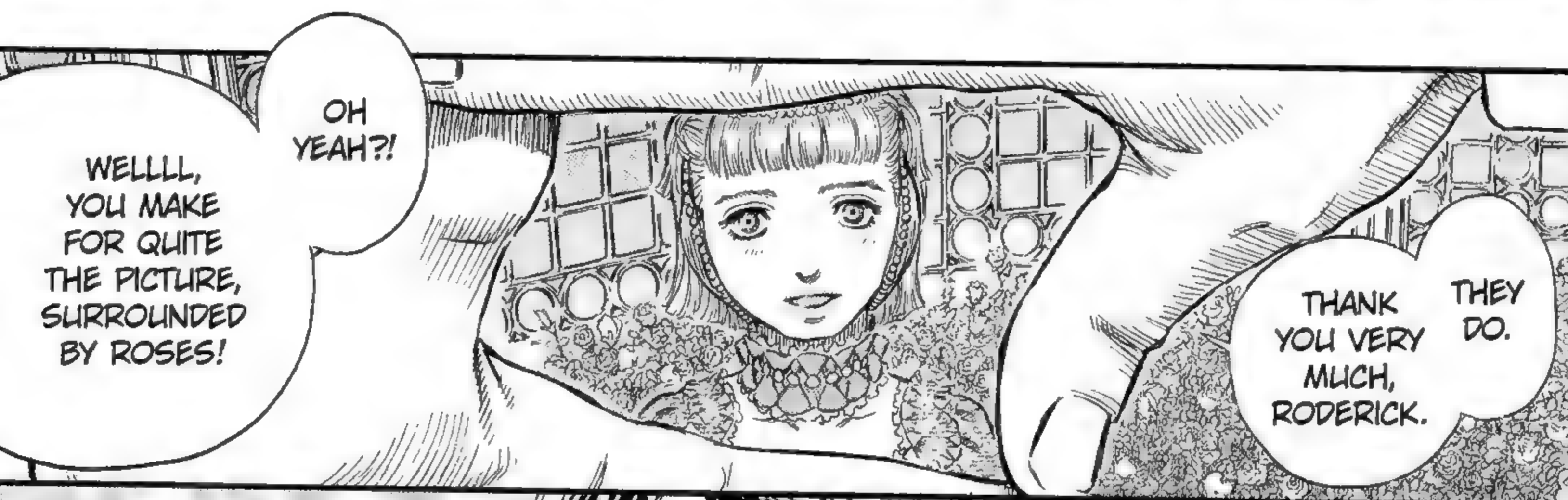
...BUT  
DO THEY  
PLEASE  
YOU?

IT WAS A  
BIT OF AN  
EFFORT,  
MAKING IT  
WORTHY  
OF THE  
DAUGHTER  
OF THE  
ESTEEMED  
VANDIMION  
FAMILY...



ALL  
THESE...

THAT'S  
INCRED-  
IBLE...



OH  
YEAH?!

WELLLL,  
YOU MAKE  
FOR QUITE  
THE PICTURE,  
SURROUNDED  
BY ROSES!

THANK  
YOU VERY  
MUCH,  
RODERICK.

THEY  
DO.



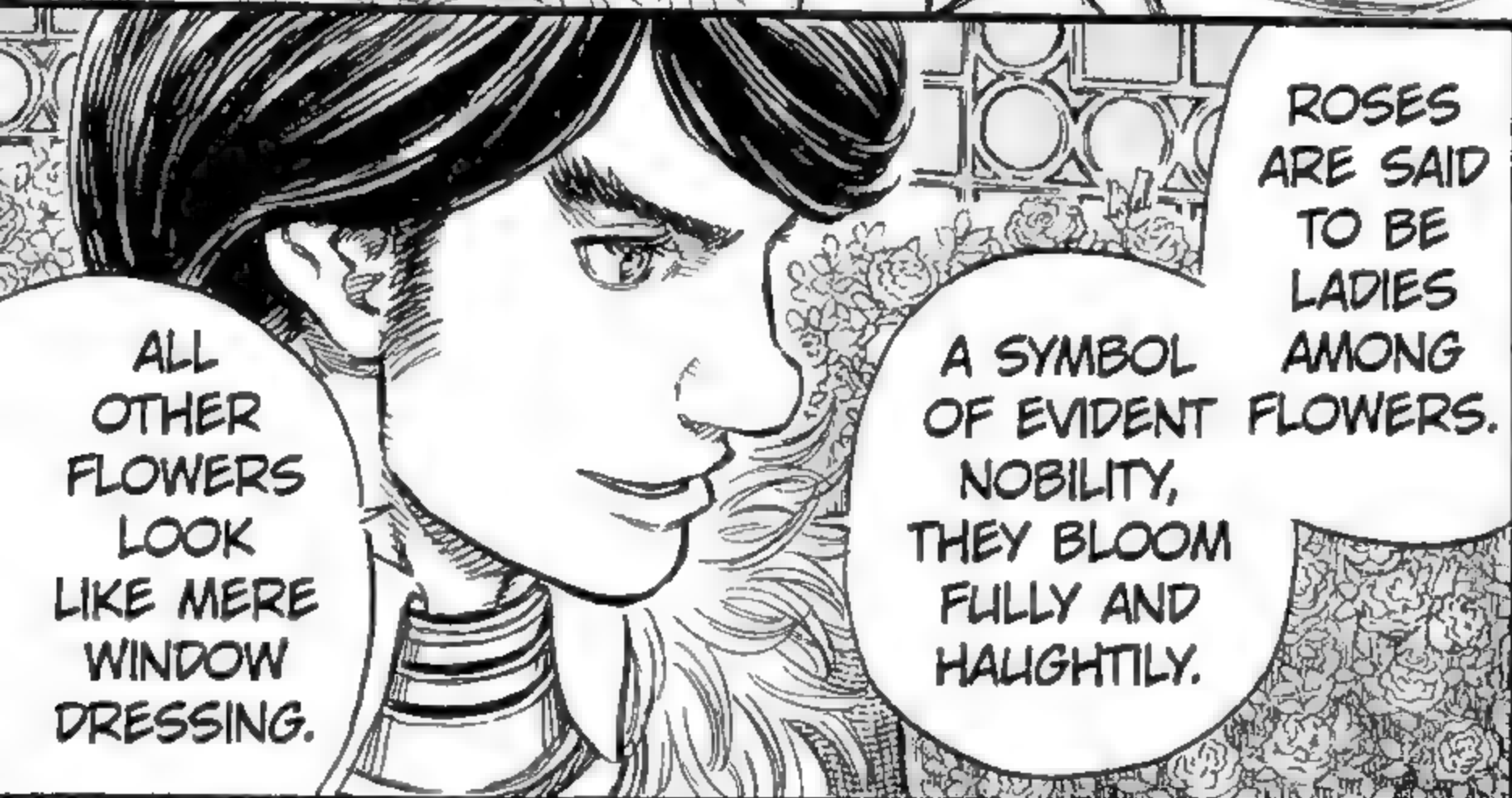
...CAN'T BRING  
MYSELF TO  
LIKE ROSES.

\*SCRATCH

ホリ

BUT YOU  
KNOW...

...FOR  
MY PART,  
I JUST...



ALL  
OTHER  
FLOWERS  
LOOK  
LIKE MERE  
WINDOW  
DRESSING.

ROSES  
ARE SAID  
TO BE  
LADIES  
AMONG  
FLOWERS.  
A SYMBOL  
OF EVIDENT  
NOBILITY,  
THEY BLOOM  
FULLY AND  
HAUGHTILY.



OY...

D'YOU  
WANT TO  
BE LIKED  
OR HATED?



...INSIDE THE  
GREENHOUSE  
THAT IS  
NOBLE RANK.

COMPETING  
THROUGH  
DRESS AND  
SHOWINESS...

INDEED,  
JUST LIKE  
NOBLE  
WOMEN.

YES.





...ARE GATHERED  
BY THE HUNDRED  
OR THE THOUSAND,  
YOU CAN'T TELL  
ONE FROM  
THE NEXT.

BUT EVEN  
WHEN  
ROSES...



THESE  
ROSES...

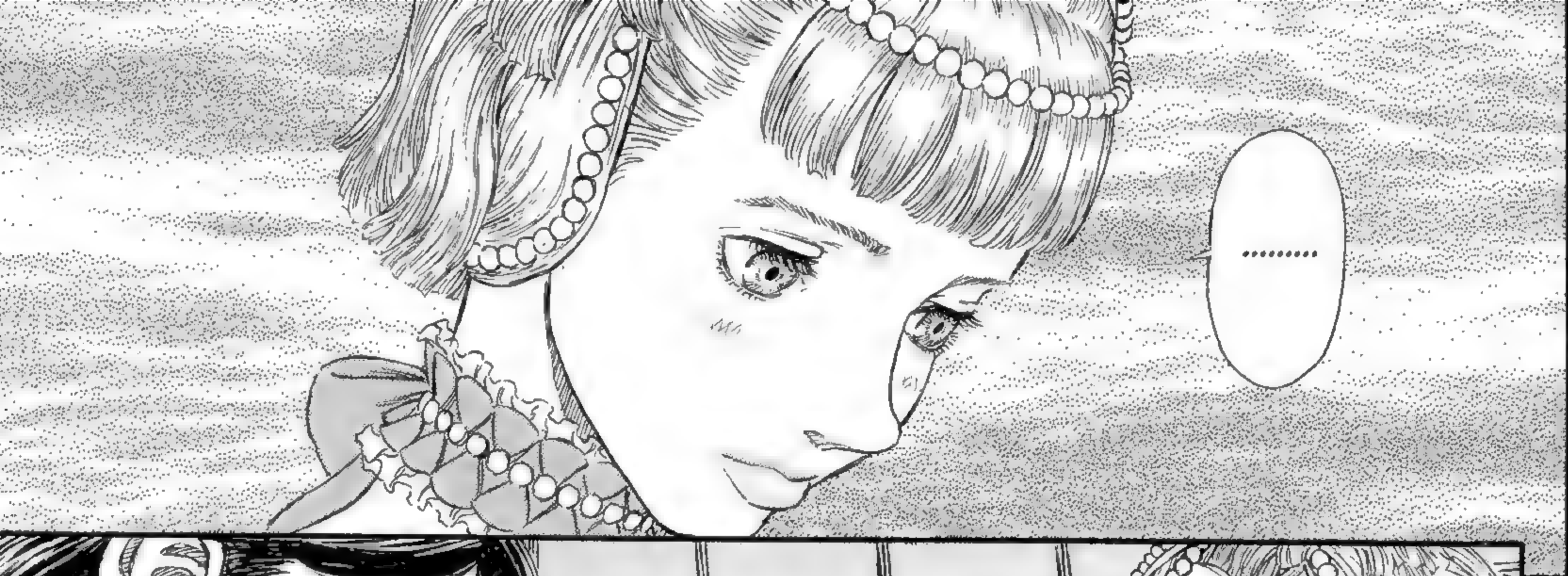
...ARE A  
FITTING  
ADORNMENT  
FOR YOU.



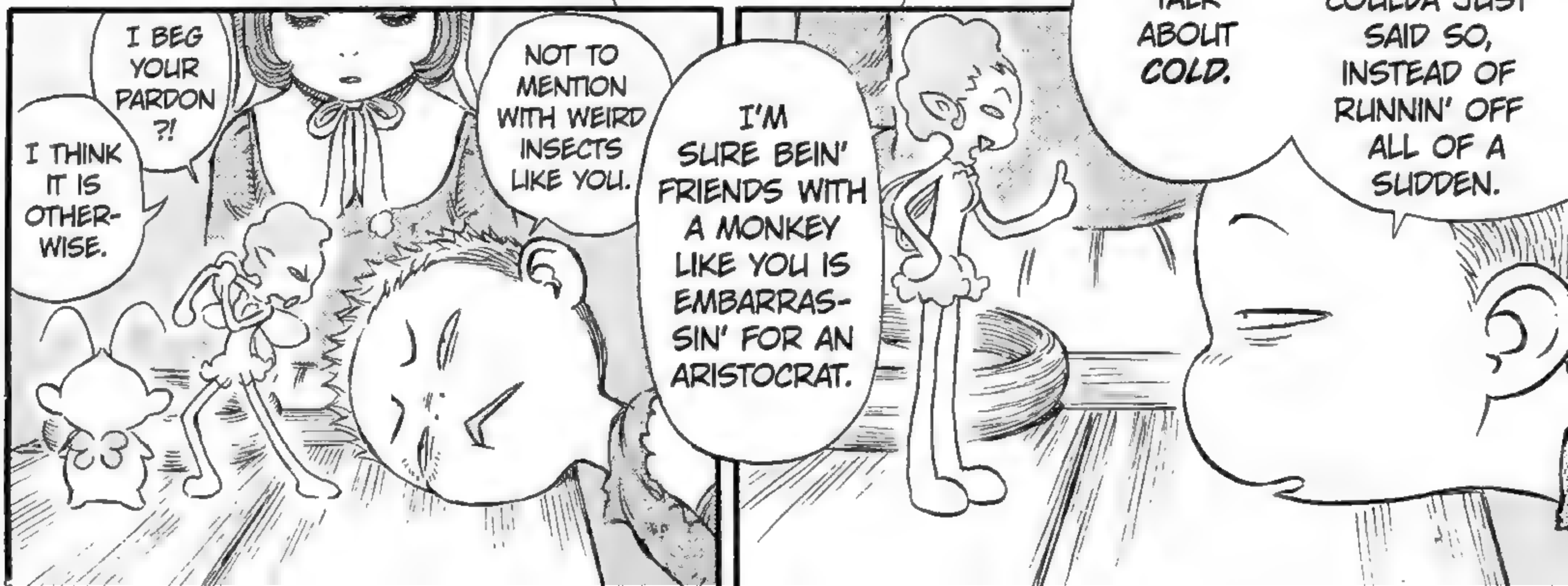
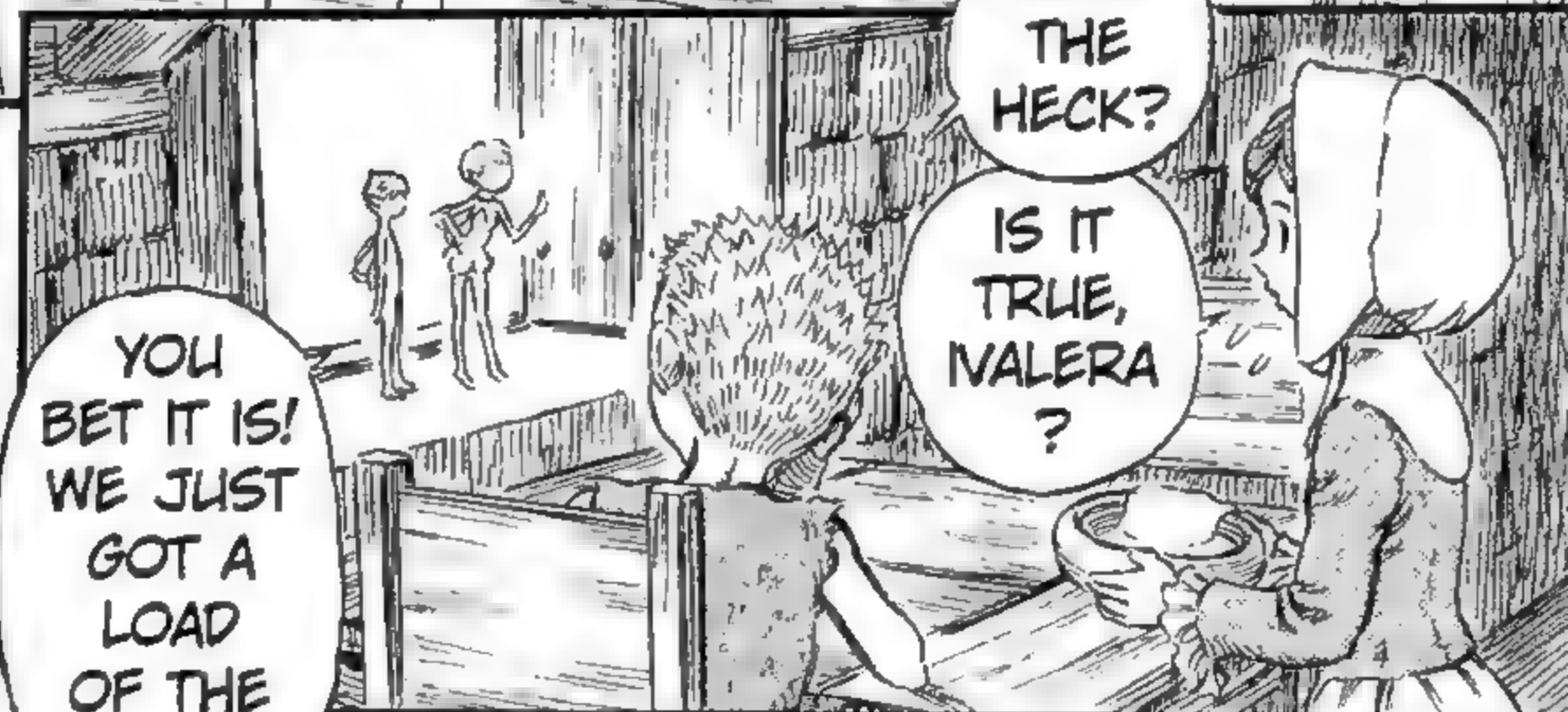
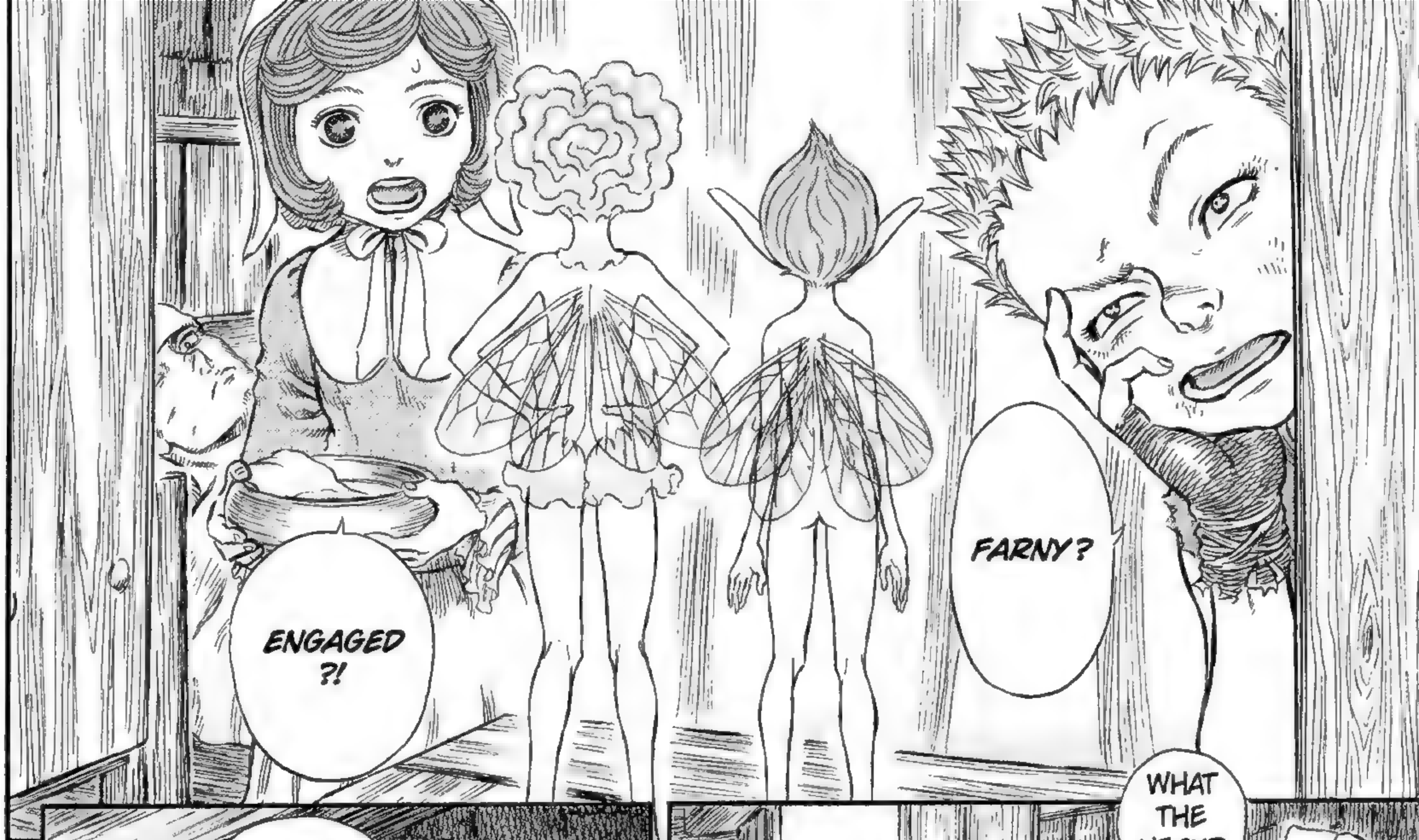
...EVEN  
WHEN  
STRUCK BY  
A STRONG  
WIND.

A WHITE  
LILY OF  
THE FIELD,  
WHICH  
SCATTERS  
NOT...











AND SHE  
TREASURED  
HER SILVER  
KNIFE SO  
MUCH...

FARNESE'S  
WISH TO  
LEARN  
MAGIC WAS  
GENLINE.

I AM QUITE  
UNABLE TO  
LOOK AFTER  
HER AS  
FARNESE  
DID.

SHE WAS  
ALSO THE  
PERSON TO  
WHOM CASCA  
WAS MOST  
ATTACHED.

IT'S THE  
OPPOSITE.

ISN'T  
STUDYIN'  
MAGIC  
SOMETHIN' AN  
ARISTOCRAT  
GIRL WOULD  
JUST FALL  
INTO ON A  
WHIM?

BUT STILL,  
SHE SENT  
BACK THE  
SILVER  
KNIFE AND ALL.

YOU  
REALLY  
DO TALK  
TOO  
MUCH.

YEAH.

UH  
OH.



...AN  
ENGAGEMENT  
WAS  
SUGGESTED  
TO HER.

AS  
COLLATERAL  
FOR  
GETTING A  
SHIP...

OR  
SOMETHING  
LIKE THAT.

ESPECIALLY  
FOR HER, A  
DAUGHTER OF  
NOBLES WITH  
SUCH A HIGH  
REPUTATION.  
I COMPLETELY  
FORGOT  
ABOUT THAT  
...

ARISTOCRATIC  
POLITICAL  
MARRIAGES  
ARE PRETTY  
MUCH A  
MATTER OF  
COURSE.

THAT  
WOULD  
MAKE  
SENSE!

GOOD  
CALL.

Y-YES,  
RIGHT  
!

.....

SO...

WHADDA  
WE DO?

...OR  
SO I'D  
LIKE TO  
THINK.

IT'S WHAT  
SHE DECIDED  
HERSELF.





IF THE PRICE  
FOR A SHIP IS  
CASCA'S BABY-  
SITTER AND  
GOOD FOOD...

...IT  
JUST AIN'T  
MUCH OF  
A DEAL.

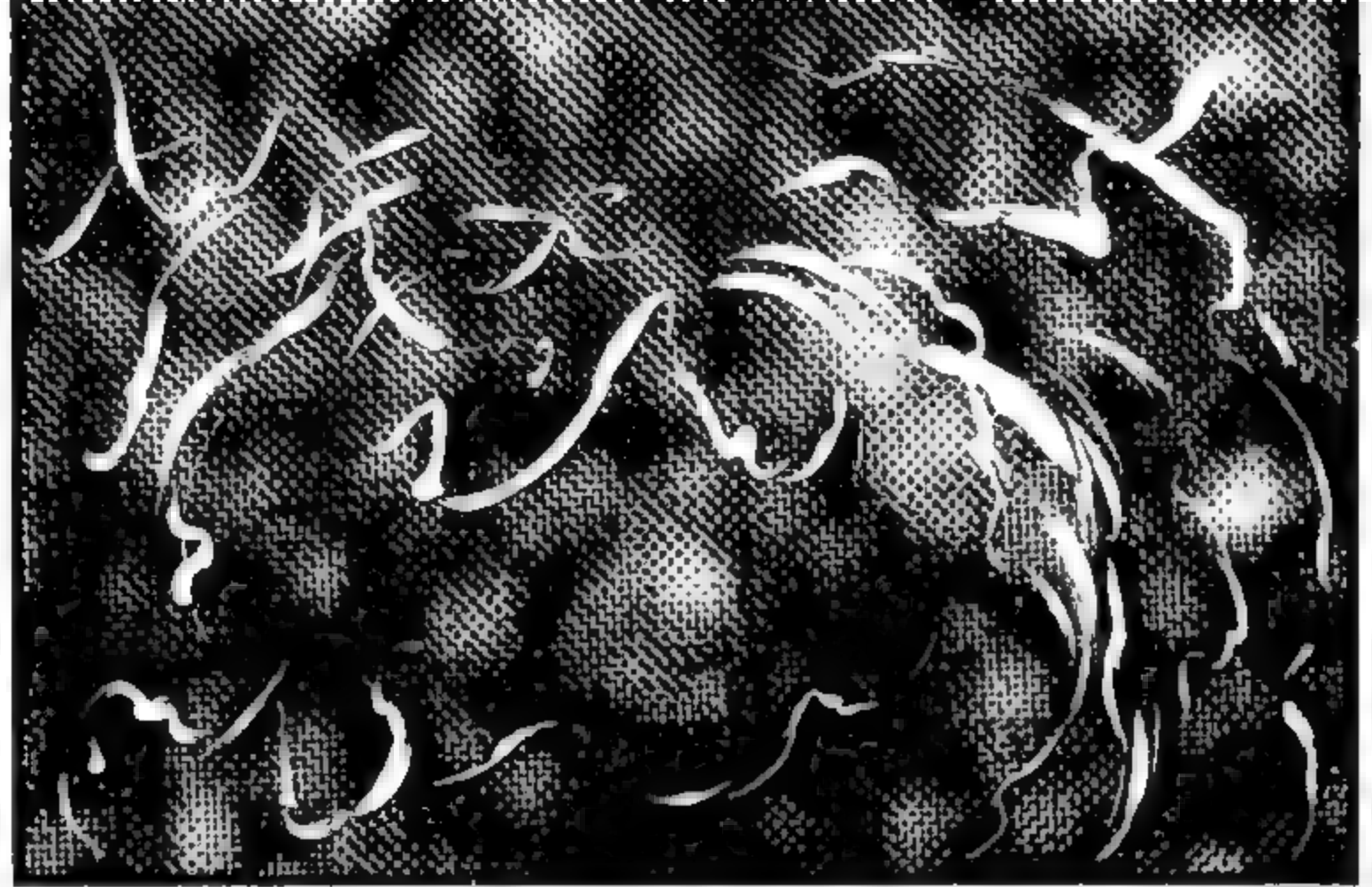




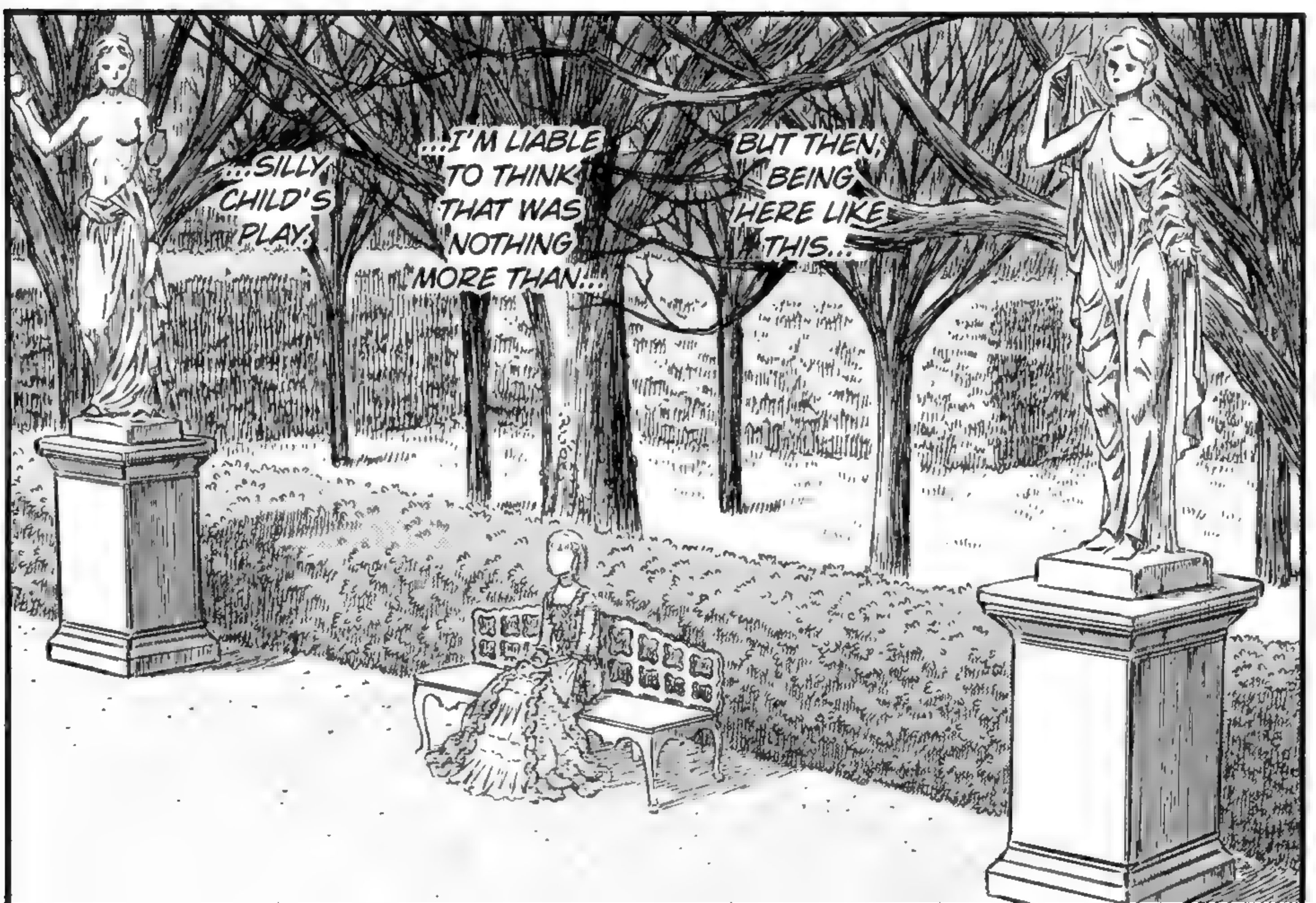
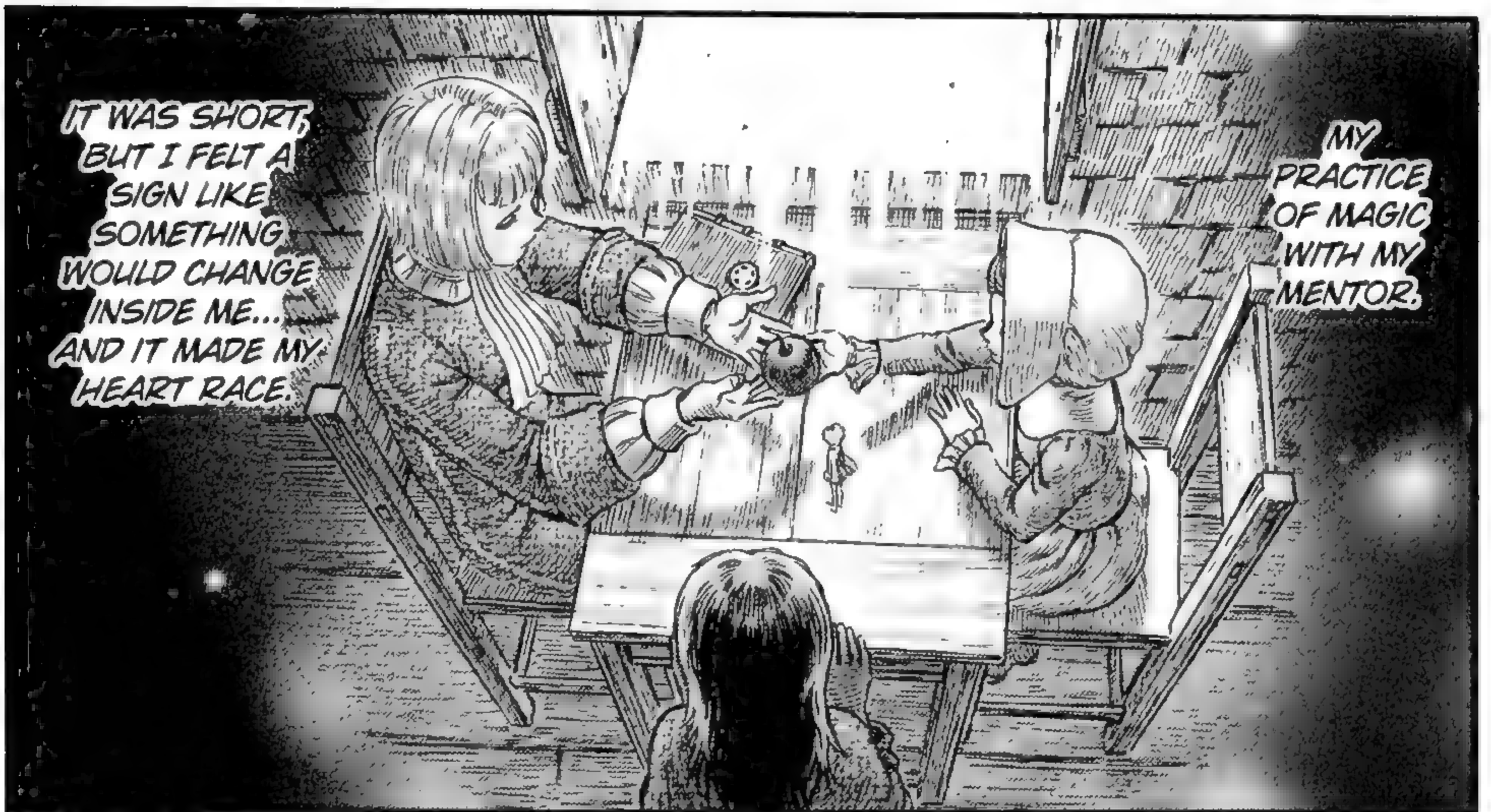
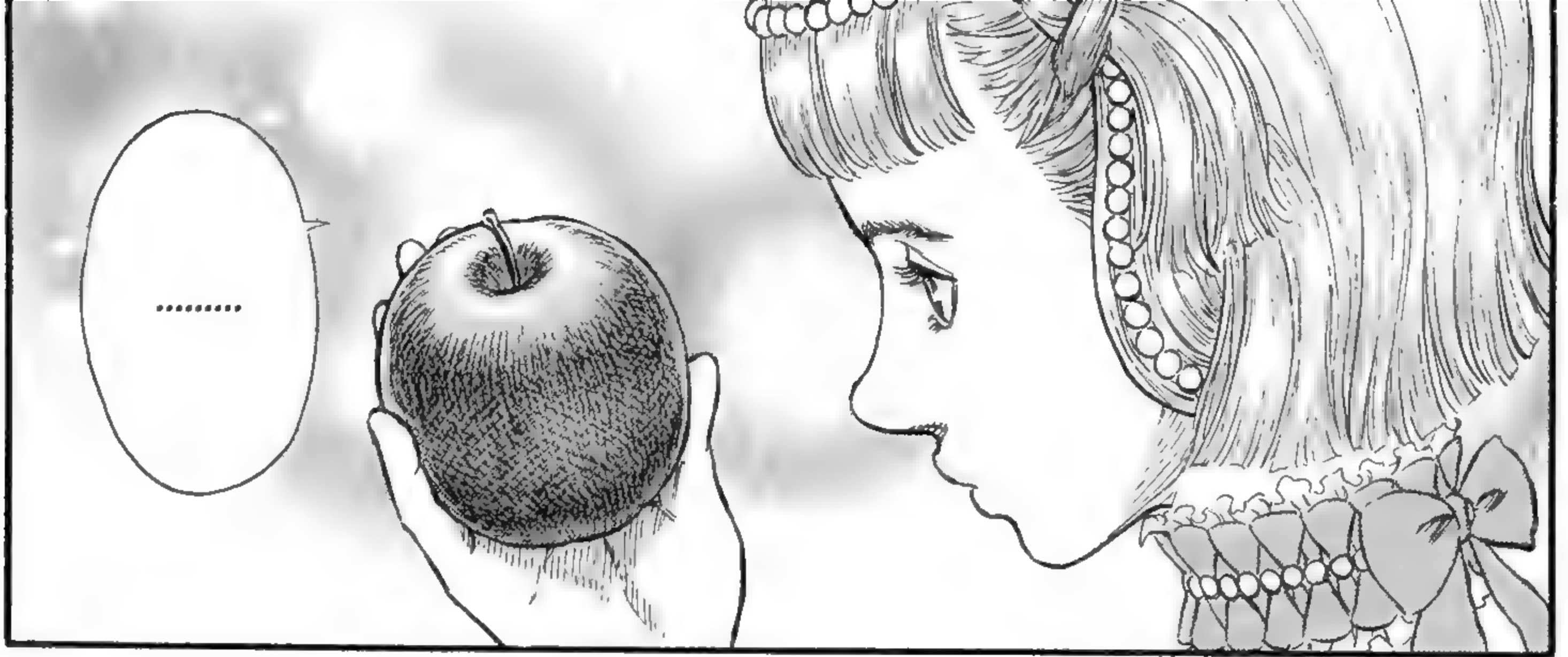
**MOTHER**  
**母**

**BERSERK**













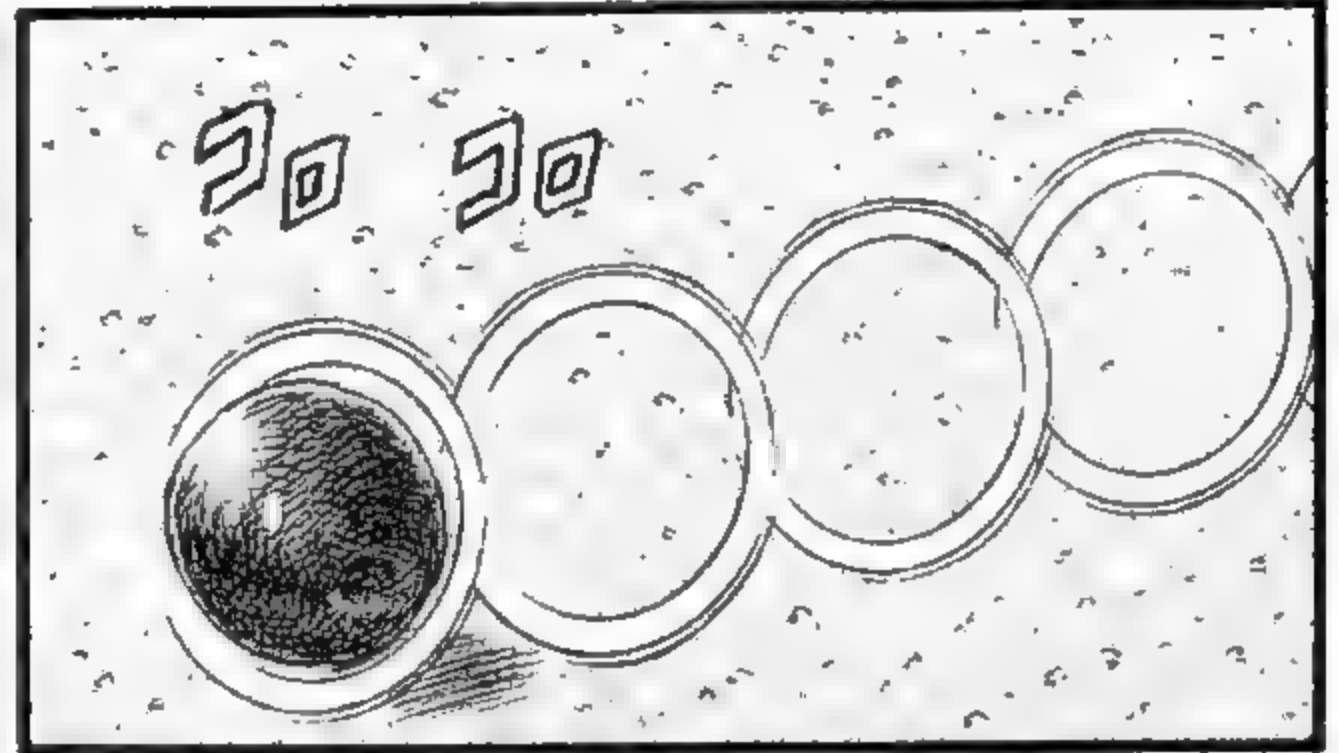
\*FX: HYRRRRLL

\*FX: ROLL



...LADY  
FARNESE.

YOU WILL  
CATCH  
COLD...



HERE  
IT IS  
ALREADY.  
SPRING.

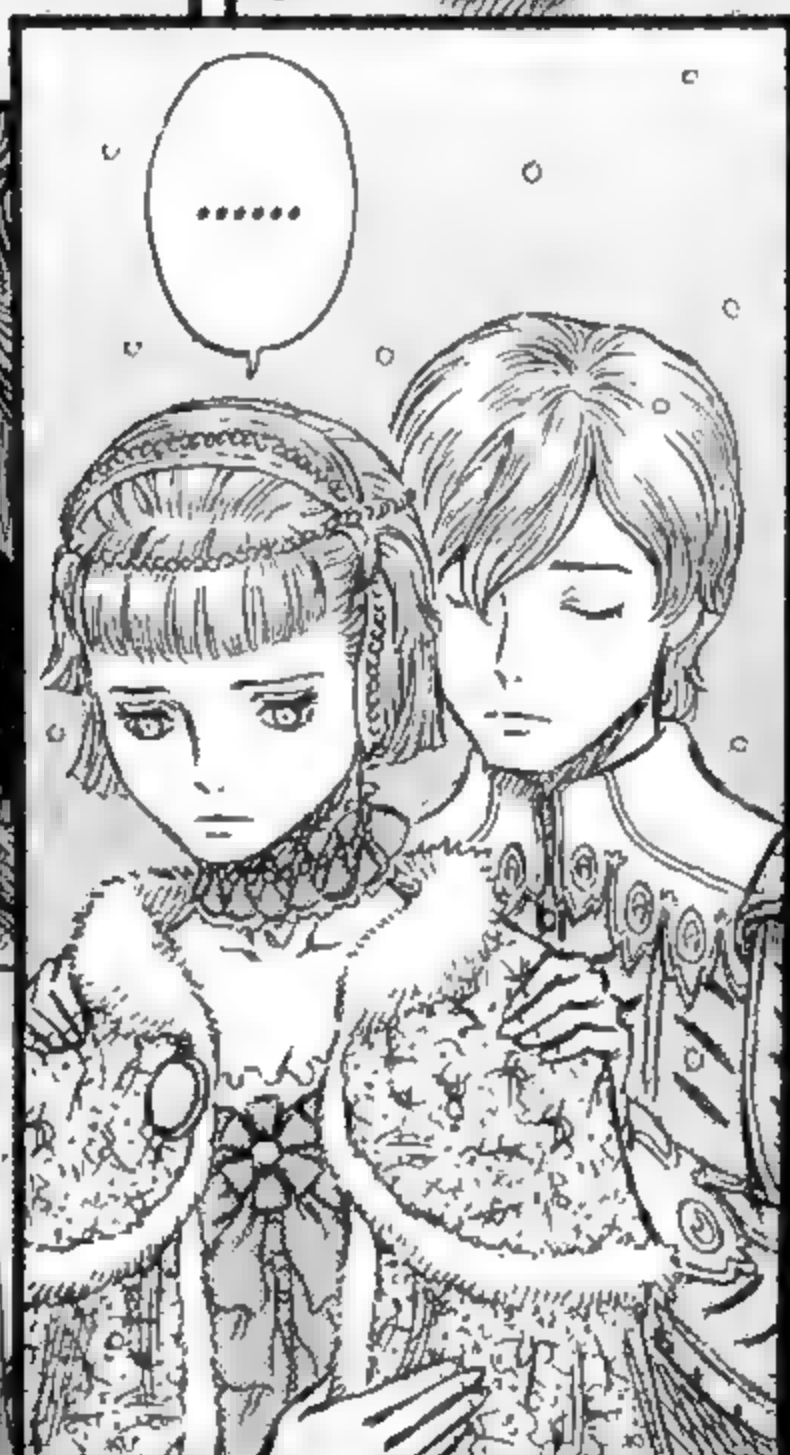
YET THE  
SNOW  
LINGERS.



...IN THIS  
PLACE,  
THE SNOW  
FALLING  
ON US...

BEING  
WITH  
YOU...

IT FEELS JUST  
LIKE BEING IN  
THAT MINIATURE  
GARDEN IN THE  
HOLY CITY.



.....





...WERE  
ALL A  
DREAM...

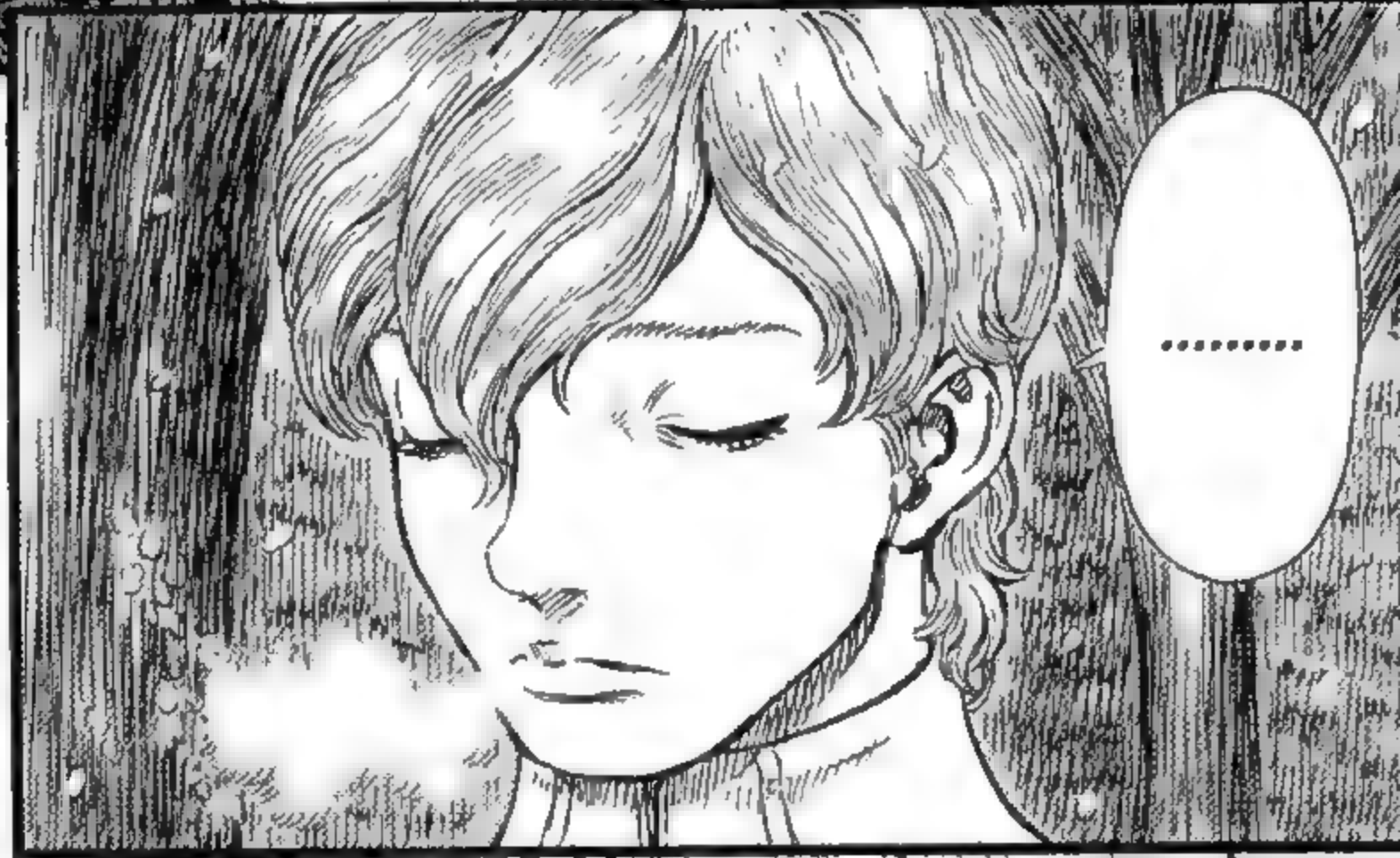
...AS IF THE  
FEELINGS I  
FELT ON THAT  
STRANGE  
JOURNEY...

AS IF  
THAT  
JOURNEY...



...WANTED  
TO BE  
USEFUL.

I...



.....



...NOBODY  
BUT I  
COULD DO.



BY  
DOING  
SOME-  
THING...



...TO  
ALL OF  
THEM.



I WANTED  
TO BE  
HELPFUL...





...I RAN  
BACK  
HOME.

HERE,  
WHERE  
I'M  
ACCLUS-  
TOMED.

COLD...

...AND  
ENCLOSED.



THE  
WARMER  
IT  
GOT...

...THE  
MORE I  
THOUGHT  
...

...I  
MIGHT  
HAVE A  
PLACE  
THERE.

BUT I  
COULDN'T  
STAY...

...AND  
IN MY  
ANXIETY...

I WAS  
UNABLE  
TO STAY  
THERE...

...AT THAT  
FIRESIDE  
CIRCLE OF  
LIGHT, GIVEN  
TO ME SO  
UNEXPECT-  
EDLY.

THERE  
WAS  
WARMTH...

...YET I  
COULD  
OFFER IT  
NOTHING IN  
RETURN.

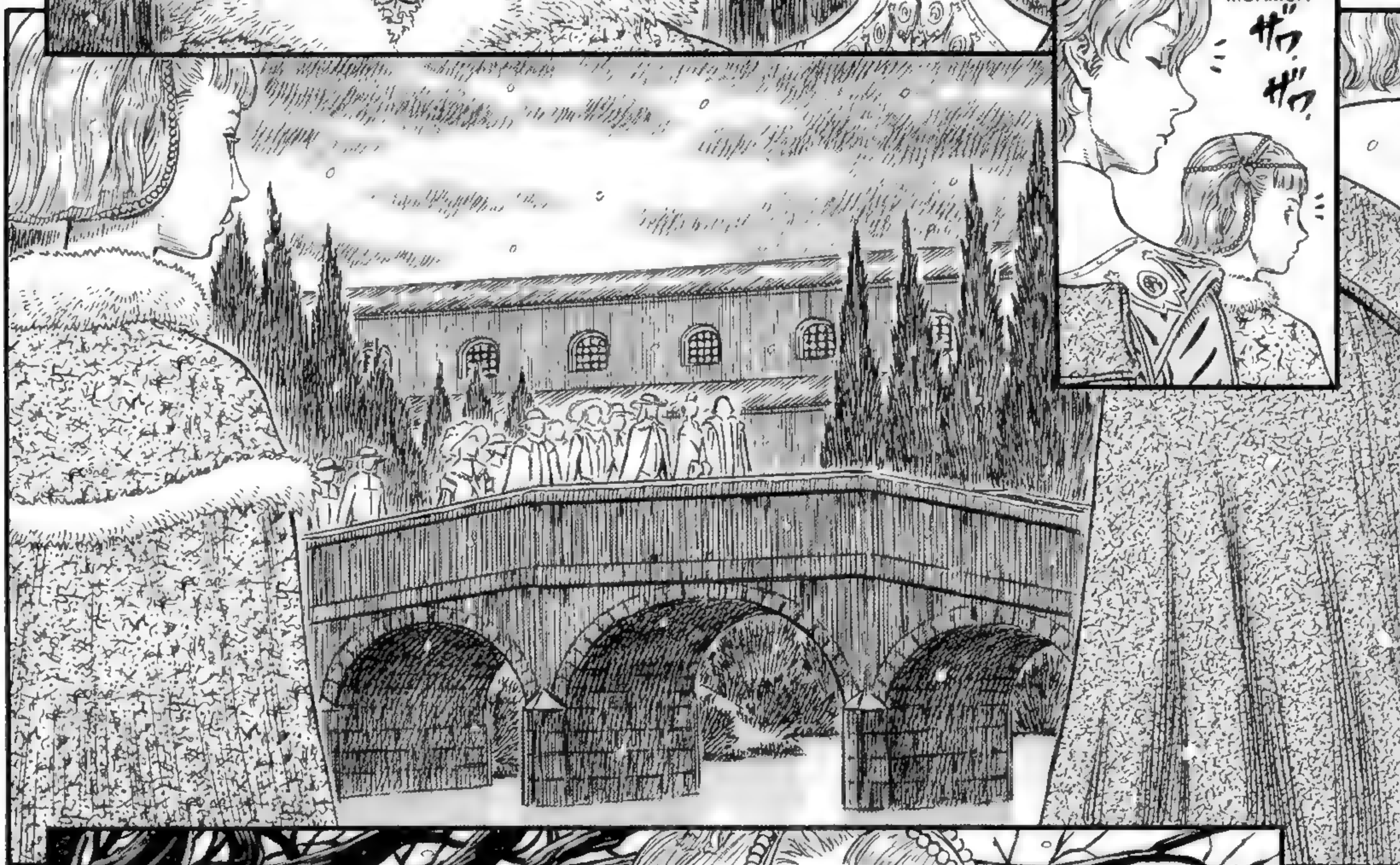
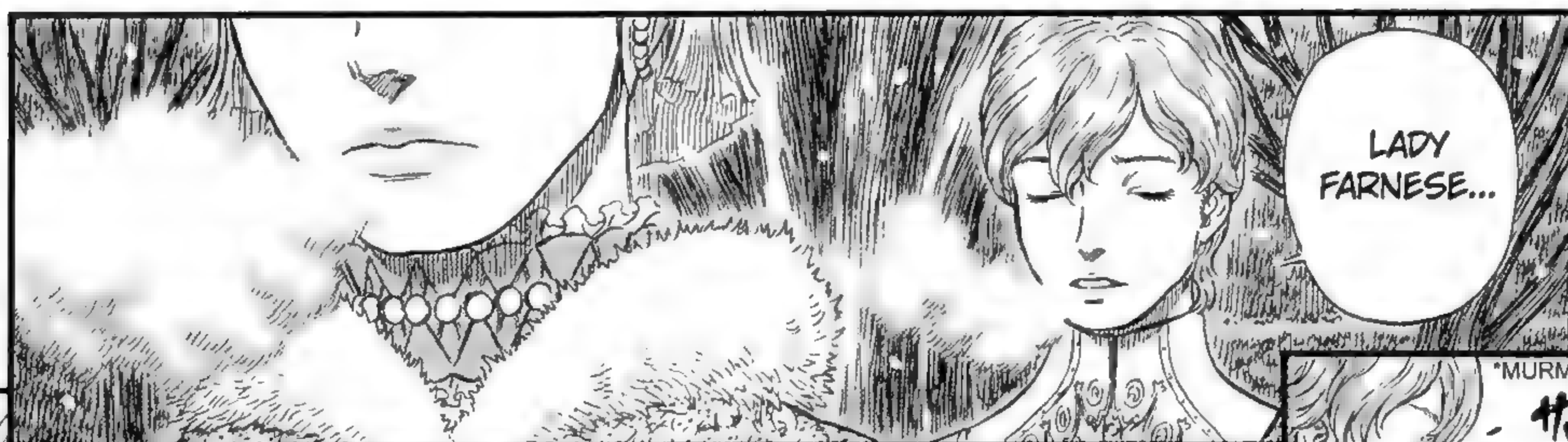
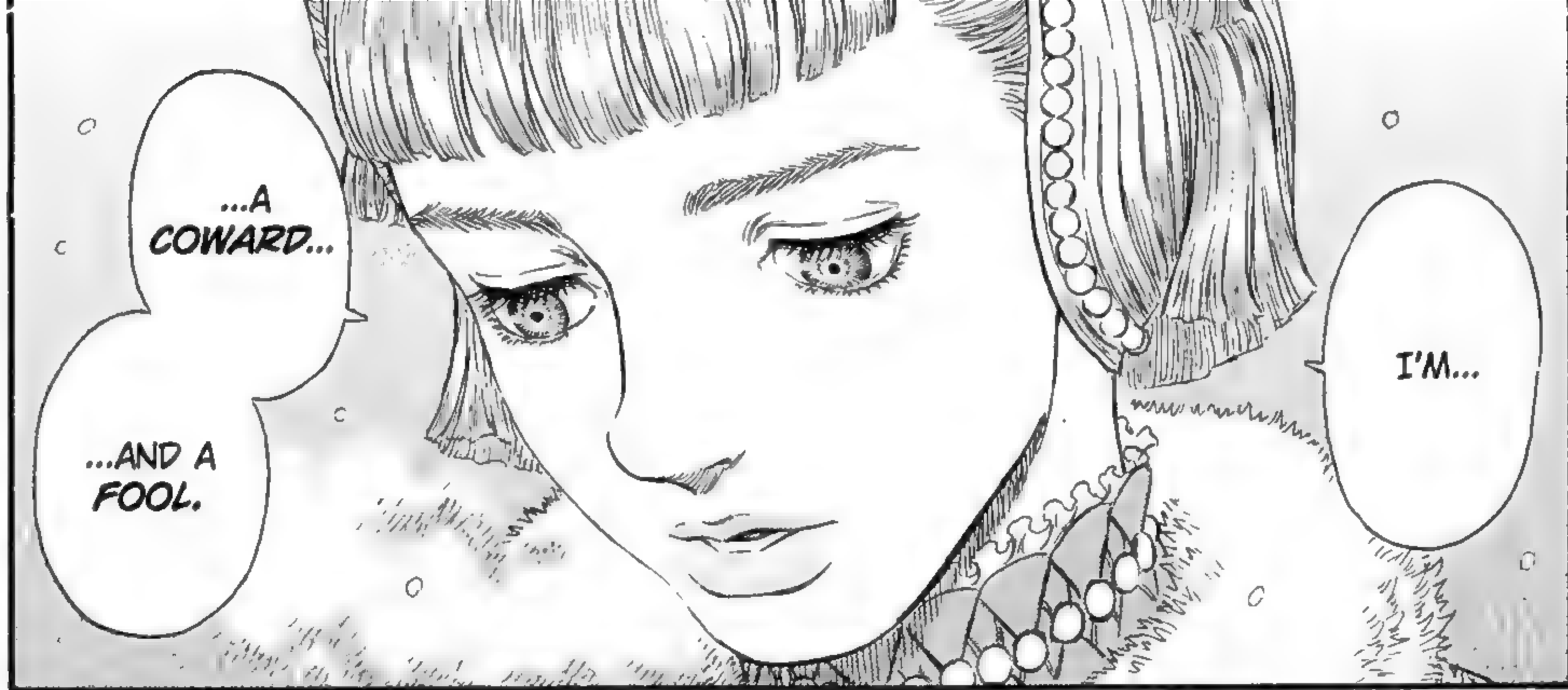


BUT...

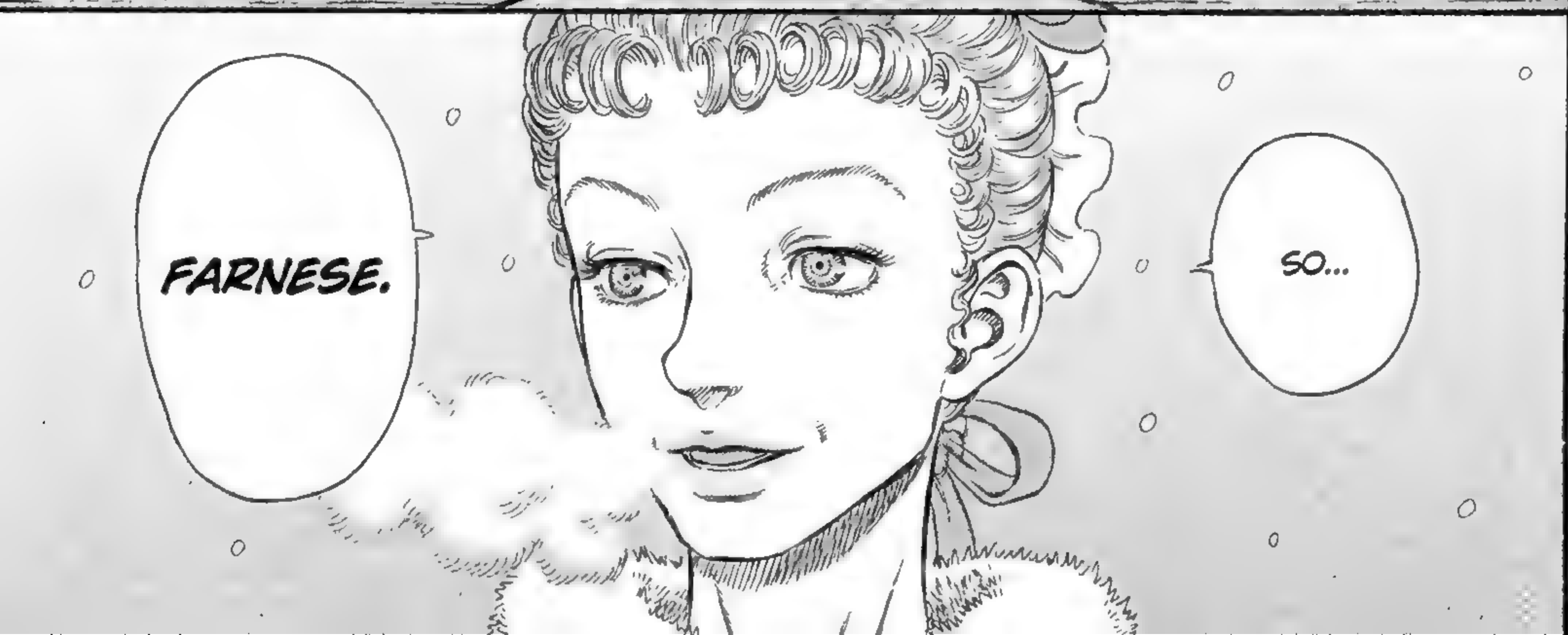
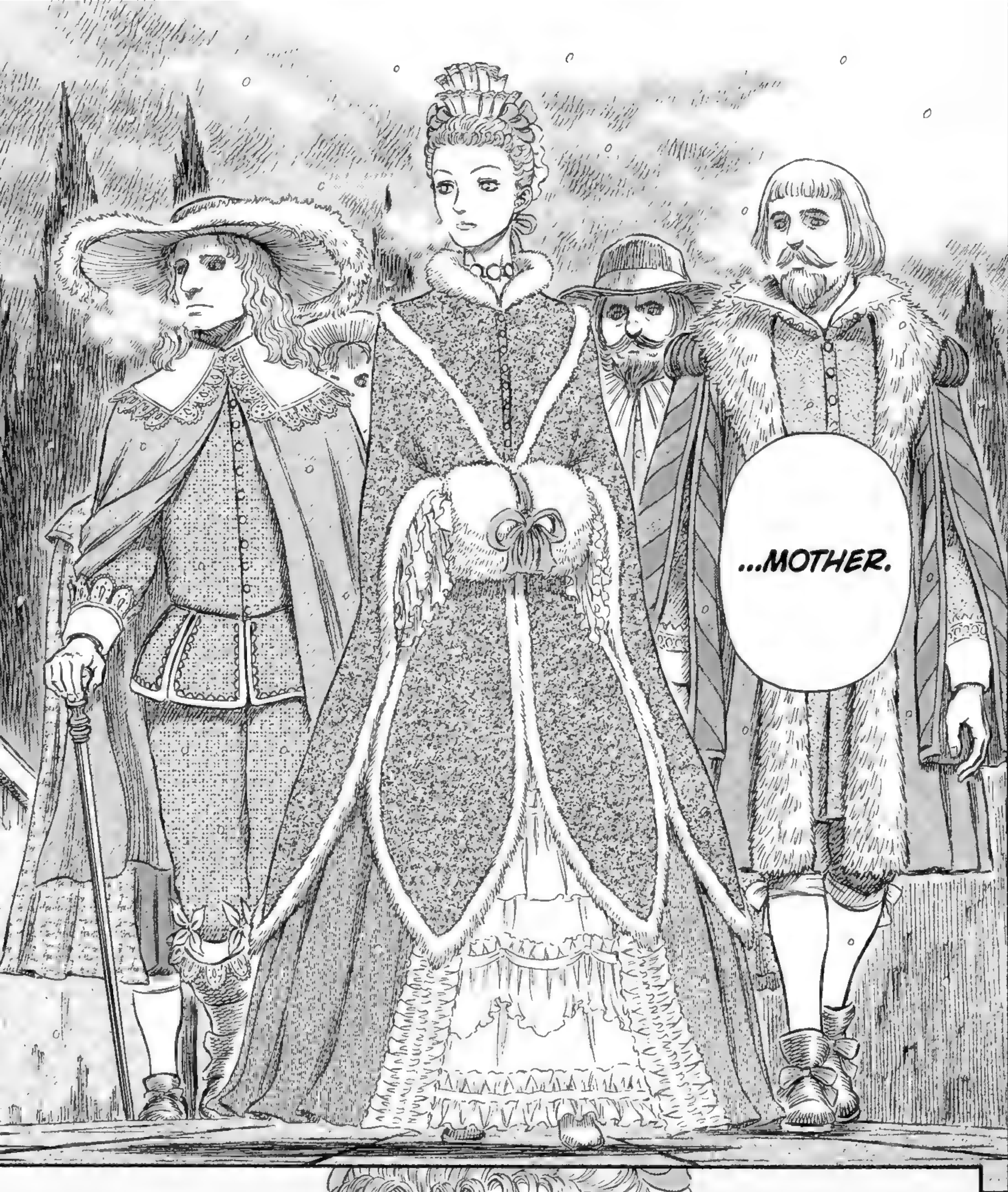
I'M  
SURE THAT  
WAS...

...AN  
EXCUSE.













WHAT  
BRINGS  
YOU  
HERE?

AS  
ARE YOU,  
MOTHER.

YOU'RE  
LOOKING  
WELL,  
AFTER SO  
LONG.



WHAT  
BRINGS  
YOU  
HERE?

DIDN'T YOU STEAL  
AWAY FROM YOUR  
HOLY KNIGHTS AND  
GO MISSING...?

OH,  
SPEAKING  
OF  
WHICH...

.....



WELL...

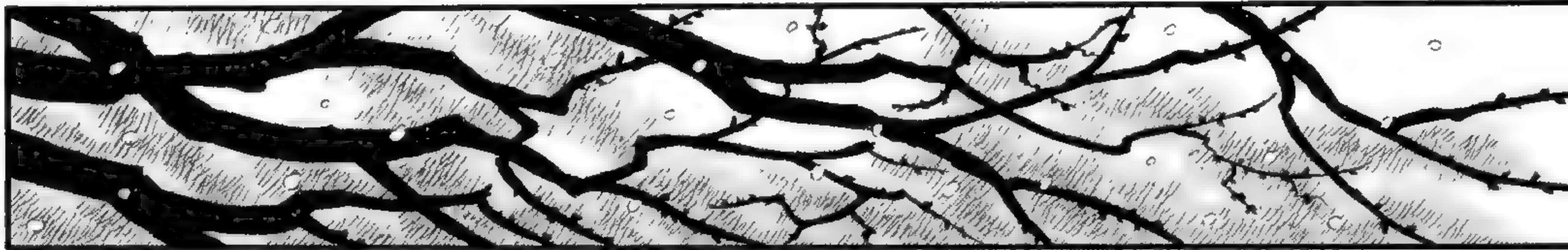
MUCH  
HAS  
HAP-  
PENED.



I THOUGHT  
I WOULD  
COMPLETE  
MY TRIP BY  
TAKING IN  
A BATTLE-  
FIELD.

AS I CAN'T  
ABIDE THE  
COLD, DURING  
THE WINTER I  
WAS SAILING  
ABOUT THE  
SOUTHERN  
ISLANDS.

AND HOW  
NICE THAT  
THE ARMIES  
ARE SO  
HEROIC AND  
FULL OF  
STALWART  
SOLDIERS.  
♡



YOU?

BETROTHED  
?

OH,  
MY.





A ROYAL  
GENTLEMAN  
WHO IS AN  
OLD SCHOOL  
FRIEND OF  
MANIFICO.

WHO  
IS HE?



I  
SWEAR.

WHEN IT  
COMES TO  
VANDIMION  
MEN...

MANIFICO  
SAID HE  
WOULD AT  
SOME POINT  
FIND A  
CHANCE TO  
TELL HIM...

HMPH.

DOES  
YOUR  
FATHER  
KNOW?



...KINDLY  
USED  
THE  
WORD...

"INTER-  
ESTING"...

...TO  
DESCRIBE  
ME.

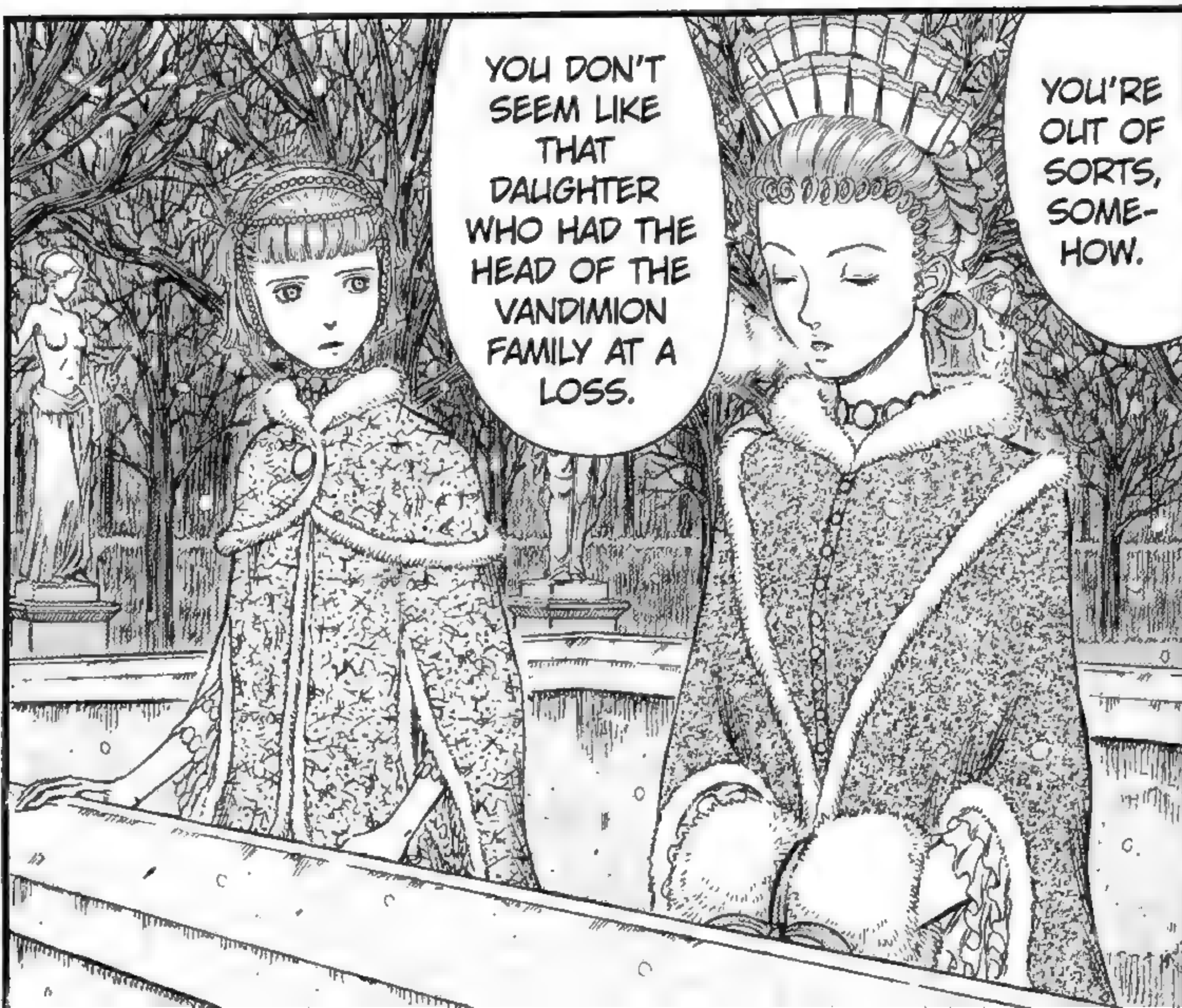
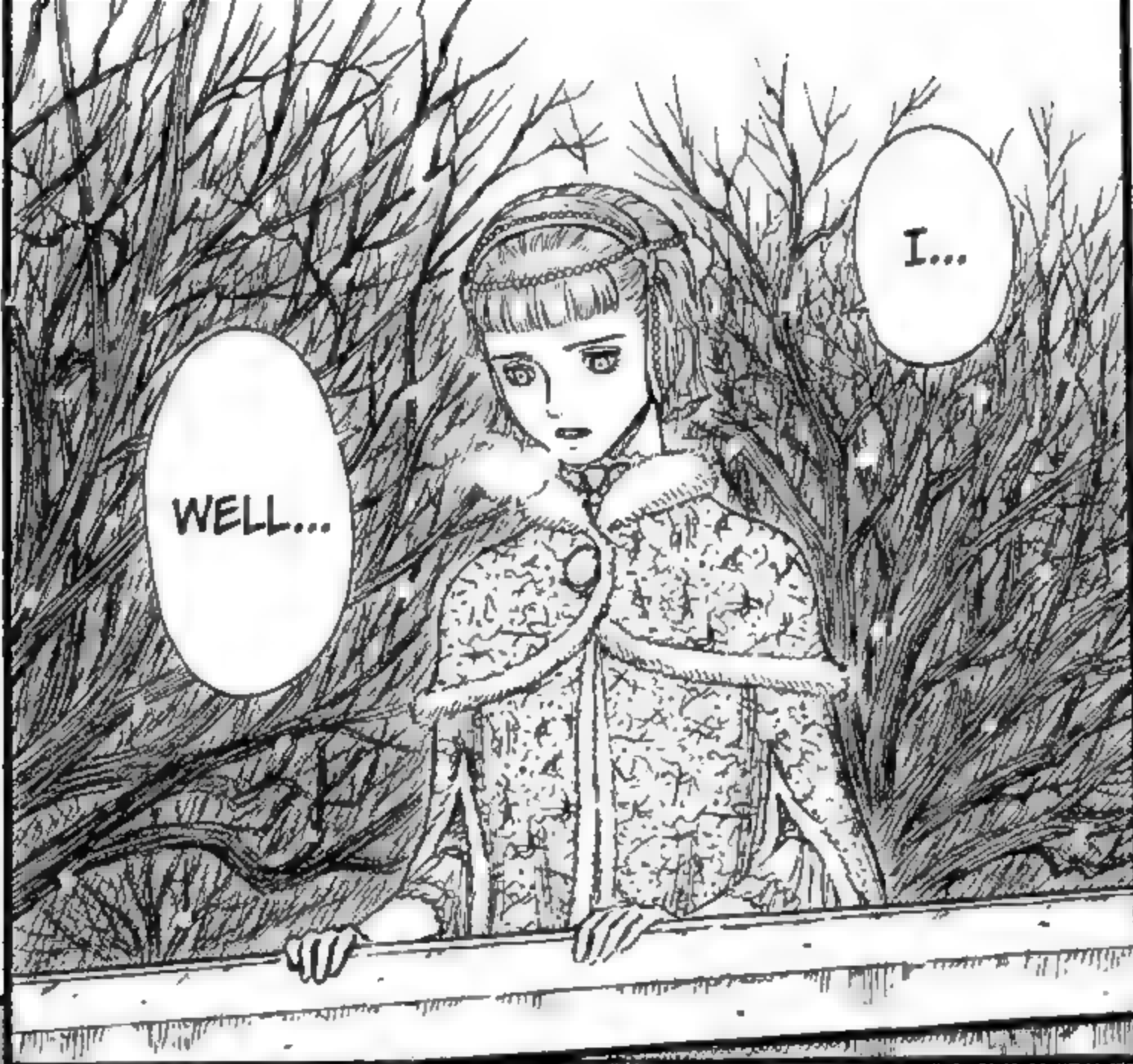


ARE  
YOU ALL  
RIGHT  
WITH  
THIS?

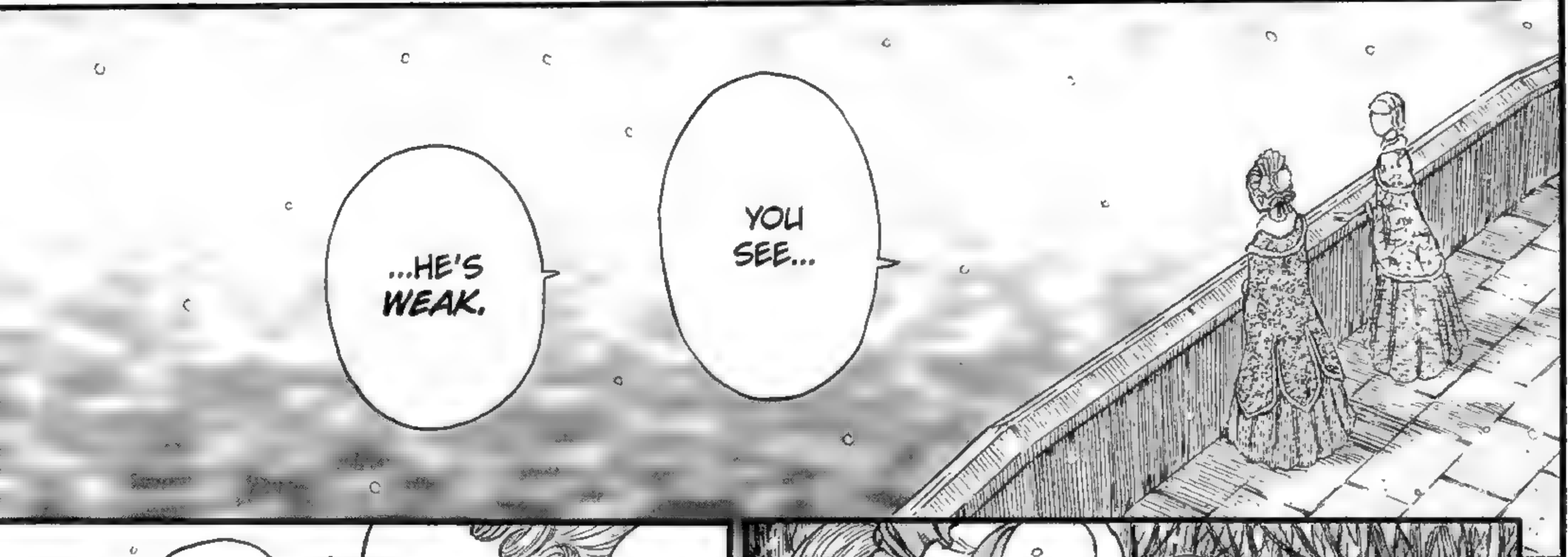
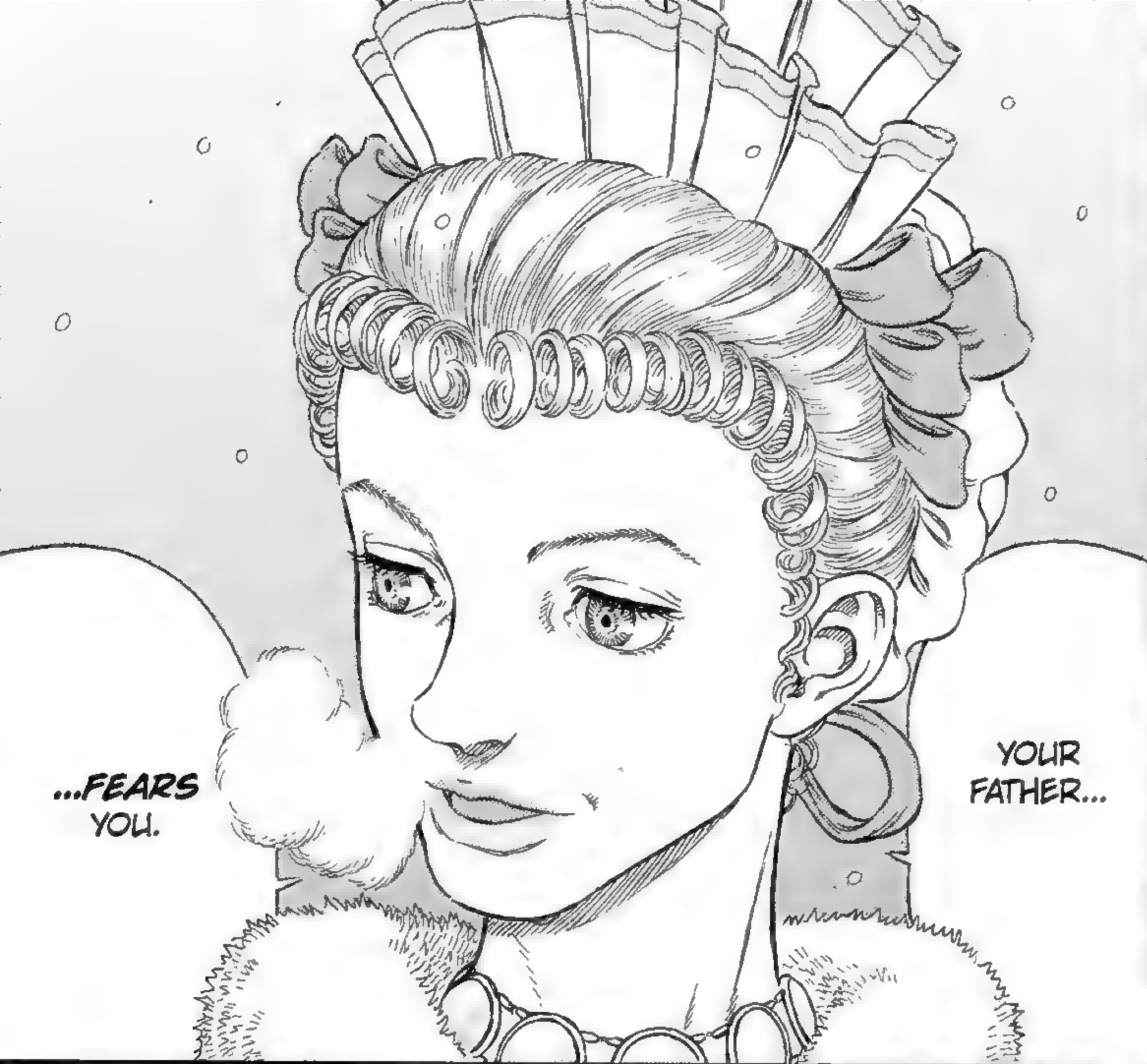
DOES  
IT SEEM  
YOU'LL GET  
ON WELL  
WITH HIM  
?

HE...











IN MY EYES, HE IS  
SLAVE TO THE WORLD.  
WELL, I SUPPOSE  
IF HE WASN'T SO  
ABNORMAL, HE  
WOULDN'T BE CUT  
OUT TO BE THE  
VANDIMION HEAD.



HE MOVES PEOPLE  
AND THINGS ALL  
THROUGHOUT THE  
WORLD LIKE THEY  
WERE TOYS, AND  
ONCE EVERYTHING  
IS ARRANGED  
ACCORDING TO HIS  
OWN **SCHEMES**,  
HE FINALLY  
RELAXES.



TO  
FATHER...?

I  
AM...?

...YOU'RE AN  
**ENIGMA**.

A LITTLE  
**MONSTER**.



TO  
SOMEONE  
LIKE  
HIM...



THAT...

THAT  
**CANNOT**  
BE!







...TO  
FATHER  
ABOUT...

I...

...NEVER  
COULD...

...MY OWN  
FEELINGS.

...SAY  
ONE  
WORD...



NEVER...

...NOT AT  
WHATEVER  
HE SAID...

I NEVER  
COULD  
DO MORE  
THAN...



FARNESE...

...IS NOT  
ALL THERE  
IS TO  
COMMUNICATING  
FEELINGS...

THE USE OF  
WORDS...





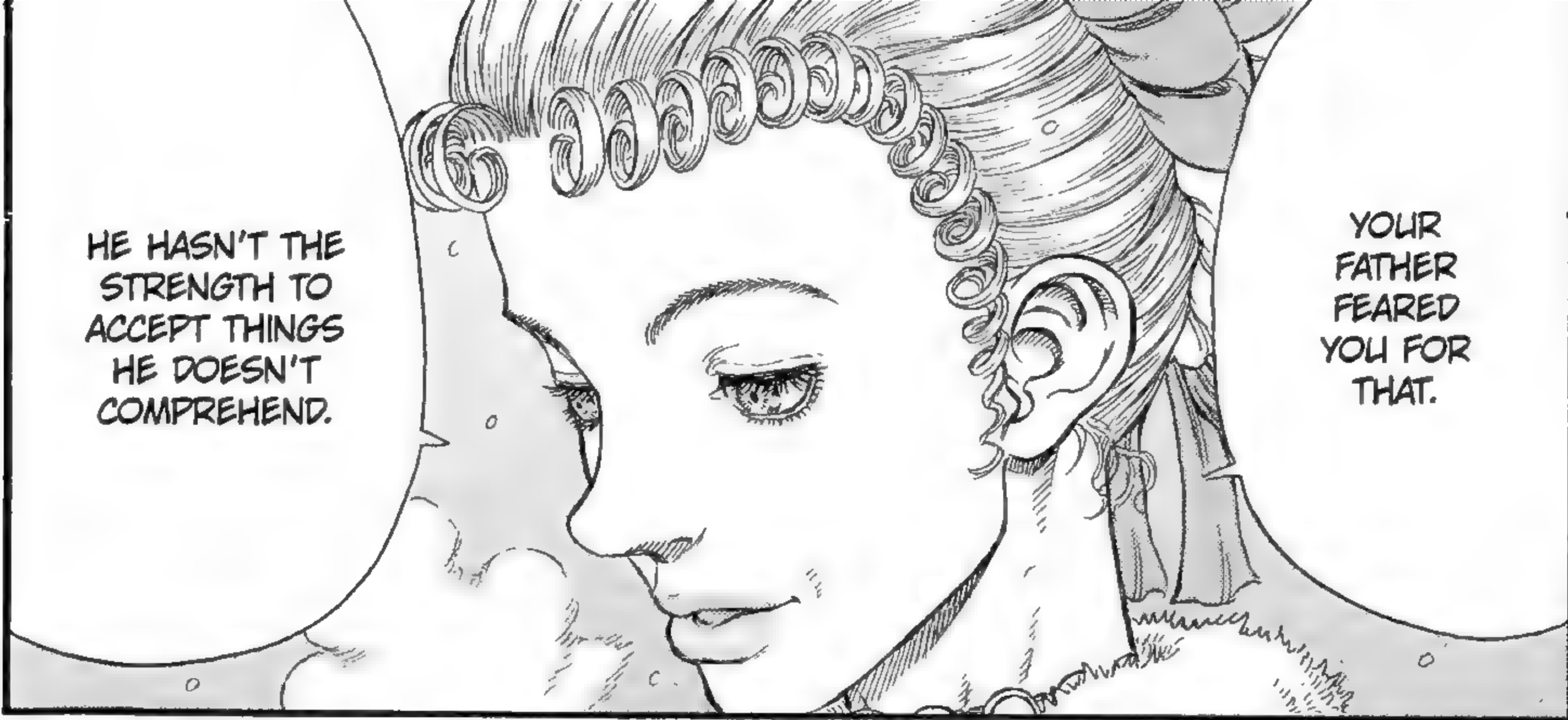
...EXPRESSED  
YOUR  
UNLITTERABLE,  
REPRESSED  
FEELINGS  
THROUGH  
THE MOST  
LINUXPECTED  
BEHAVIOR.

YOU'VE  
ALWAYS...

LIKE  
A BABY,  
WITHOUT  
SPEECH...

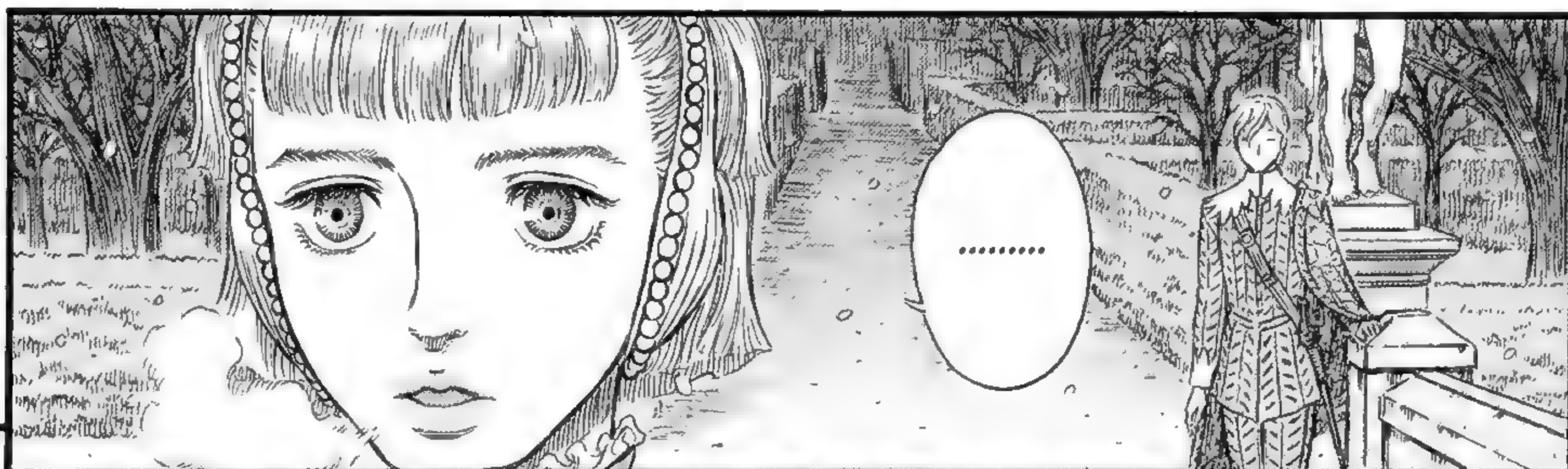
...CRYING AND  
SHOLTING  
FOR ALL IT'S  
WORTH.





HE HASN'T THE  
STRENGTH TO  
ACCEPT THINGS  
HE DOESN'T  
COMPREHEND.

YOUR  
FATHER  
FEARED  
YOU FOR  
THAT.



AND SO  
YOUR HEART  
IS NAKED,  
NOT CLAD IN  
ANY SHELL.

YOU WERE  
RAISED ALL  
ALONE, LIKE  
SOME BEAST  
OF THE FIELD,  
NEVER  
EXPERIENCING  
A PARENT'S  
WARMTH OR  
THE WORLD  
OF MAN.

WHEN IT  
COMES  
TO YOUR  
FEELINGS,  
YOU ARE  
ARTISTIC...

SO MUCH  
SO THAT  
YOU CAN'T  
ABIDE THIS  
WORLD.



...THEN YOU,  
MORE  
FAMILIAR  
WITH PAIN  
THAN  
MOST...

BUT YOU  
KNOW...

...COULD  
PROBABLY  
COME TO  
BE KINDER  
THAN ANYONE  
ELSE.

IF YOU WERE  
ABLE TO FIND  
A PLACE FOR  
YOURSELF  
SOMEWHERE...

BUT AS A  
MOTHER,  
I'M PROUD  
TO HAVE A  
DAUGHTER  
LIKE YOU.

I DON'T  
EXACTLY  
REMEMBER  
RAISING  
YOU AS  
SUCH...

MOTHER...

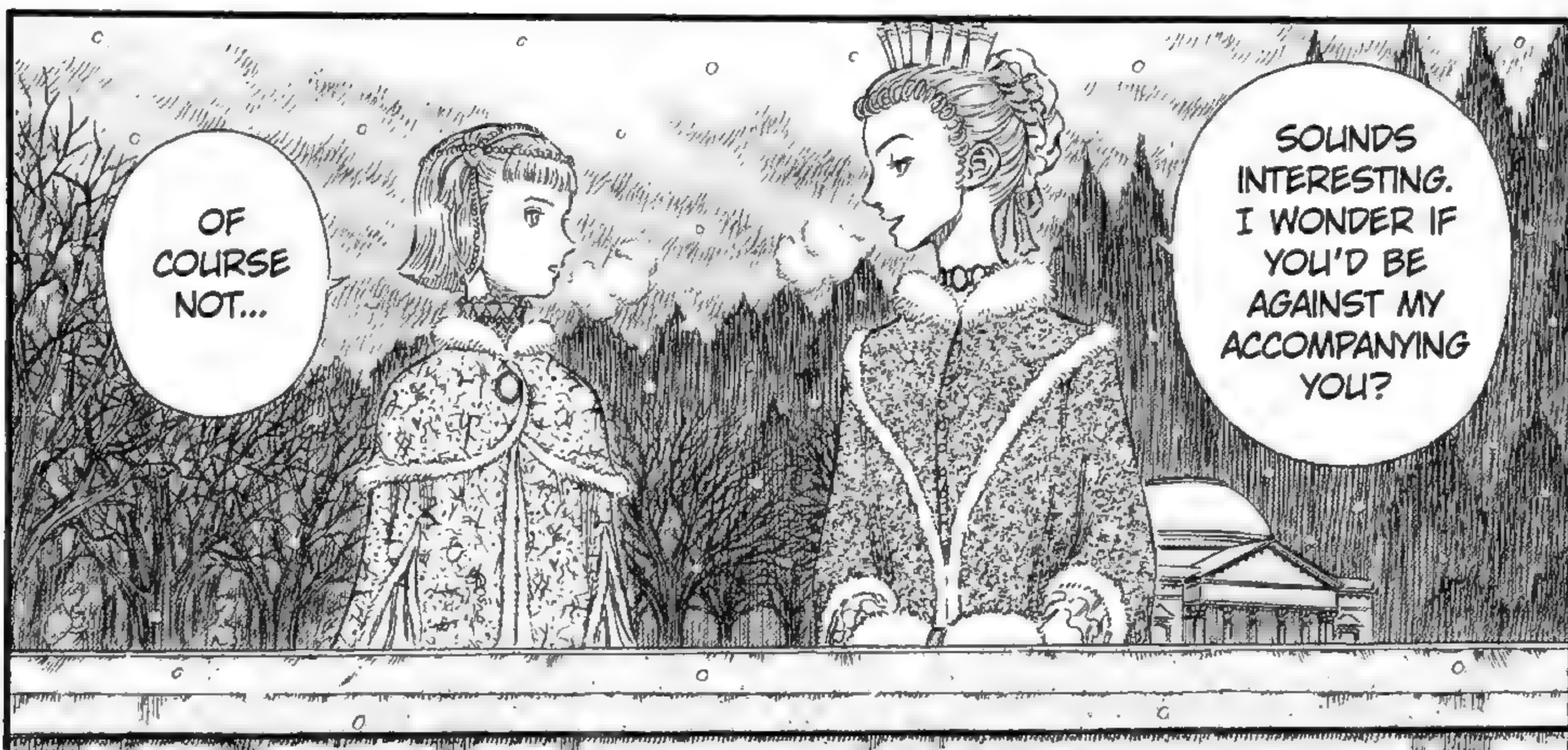
WHAT  
A THING  
TO SAY...

PERHAPS  
YOU HAD ME  
AS A BAD  
EXAMPLE  
FROM WHICH  
TO LEARN?





APPARENTLY A BALL IS BEING HELD IN ANTICIPATION OF TOMORROW'S DEPARTURE FOR THE FRONT. IT'S SPONSORED BY THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, AND PERSONAGES FROM EACH COUNTRY ARE INVITED. MANIFICO SAID I MUST BE SURE TO ATTEND...







SO  
WHADDA  
WE DO?

JUST  
WAIT FOR  
IT TO  
GET DARK  
AND--



WE'LL  
WALK  
RIGHT  
IN.

!  
YEAH,  
BLT...



IS THIS  
WHOLE  
THING  
FARNY'S  
PLACE?  
TOO MUCH  
SPACE...

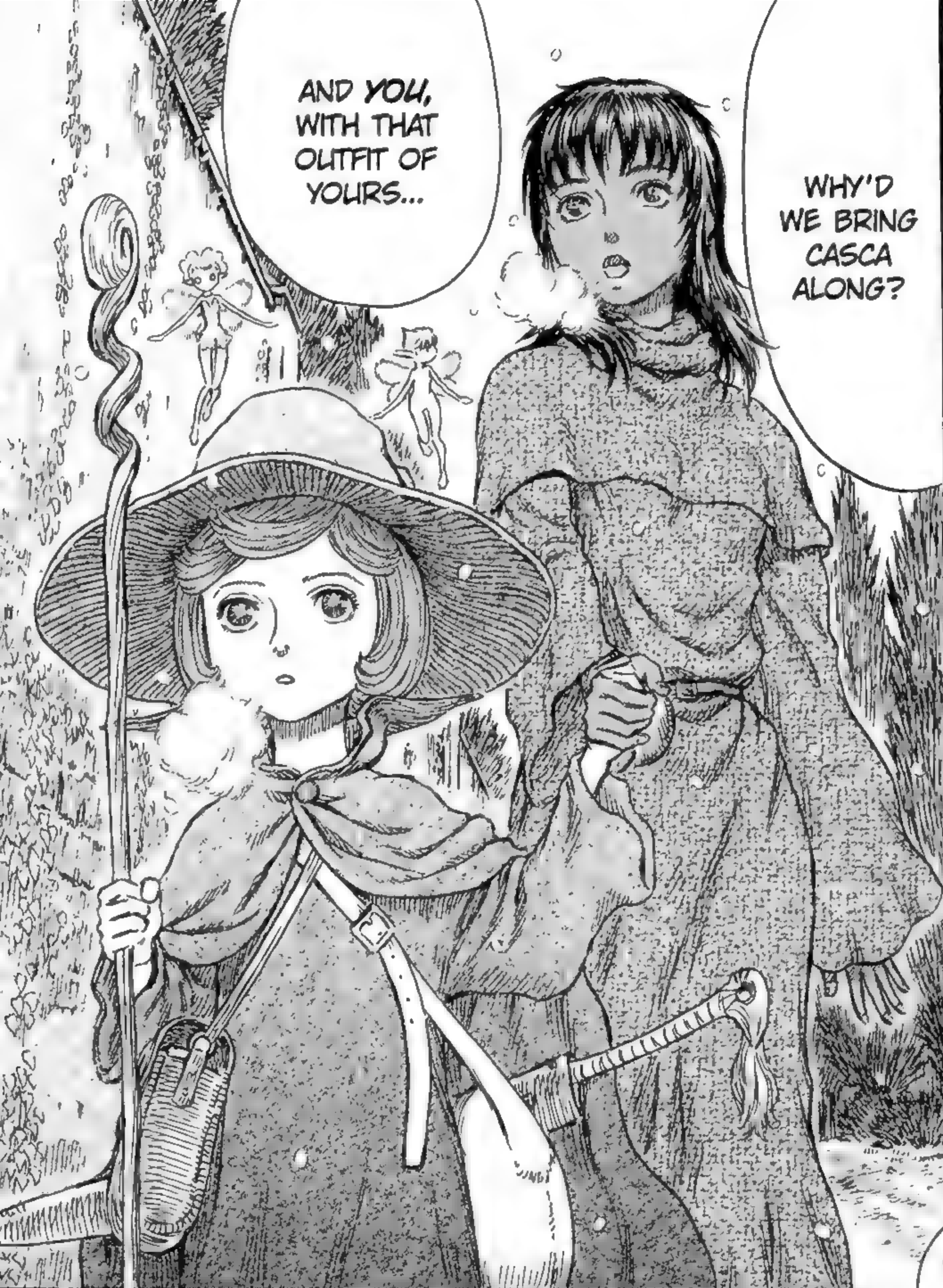
MAN...  
NOTHIN'  
BLT  
WALLS!



WE'LL  
JUST GO  
AND SEE  
HER.

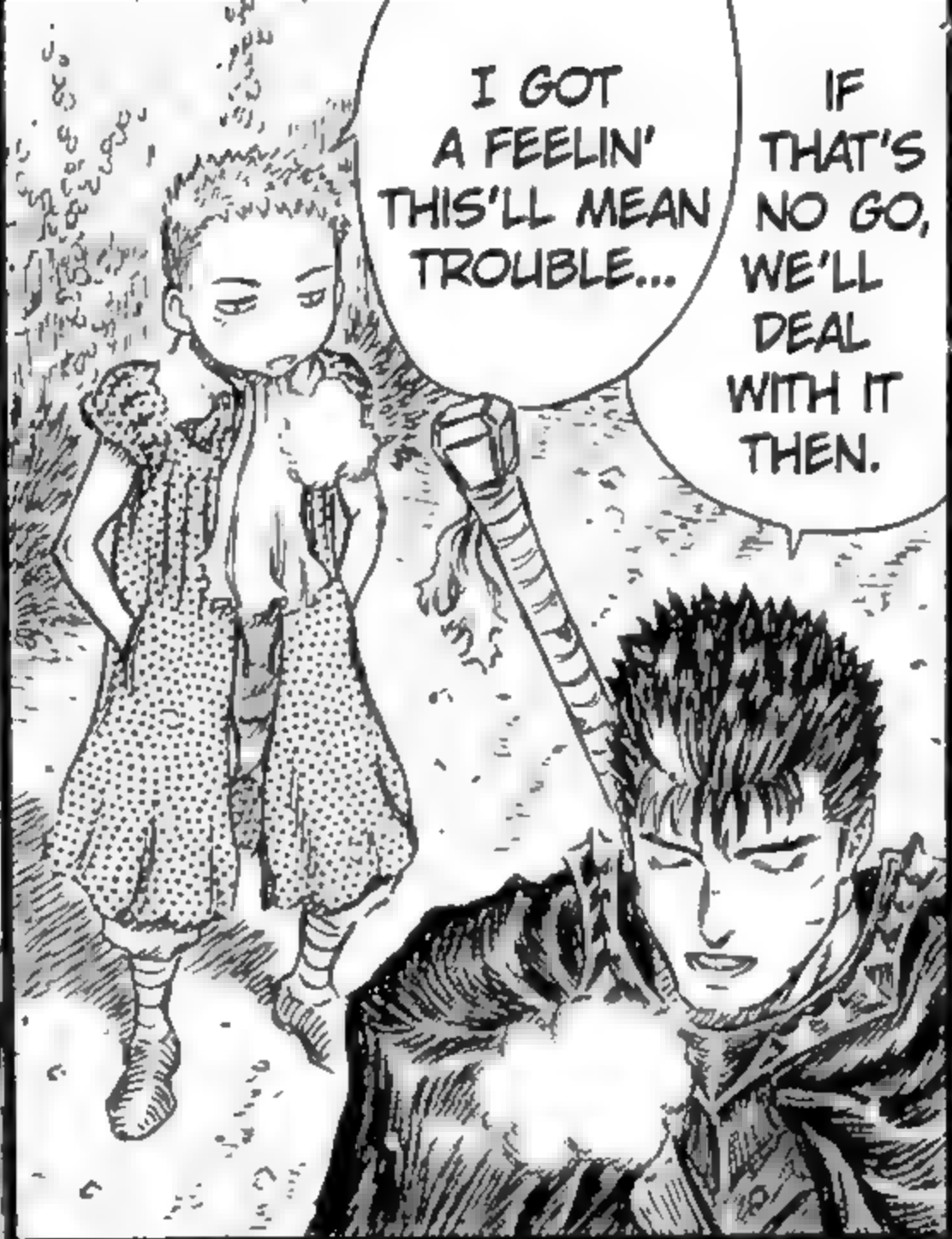
THERE'S  
NOTHIN' TO  
BE ASHAMED  
OF, REALLY.





AND YOU,  
WITH THAT  
OUTFIT OF  
YOURS...

WHY'D  
WE BRING  
CASCA  
ALONG?



I GOT  
A FEELIN'  
THIS'LL MEAN  
TROUBLE...

IF  
THAT'S  
NO GO,  
WE'LL  
DEAL  
WITH IT  
THEN.



ANY-  
WAY...



BESIDES, I  
WANT THINGS  
TO RETURN TO  
THE WAY THEY  
WERE, AND  
QUICKLY.



WELL,  
YEAH,  
THAT'S  
TRUE.

WE COULD  
NEVER LEAVE  
CASCA BY  
HERSELF AT  
THE INN.

AND  
SHE'LL  
BE BAIT  
TO LURE  
FARNY  
BACK.

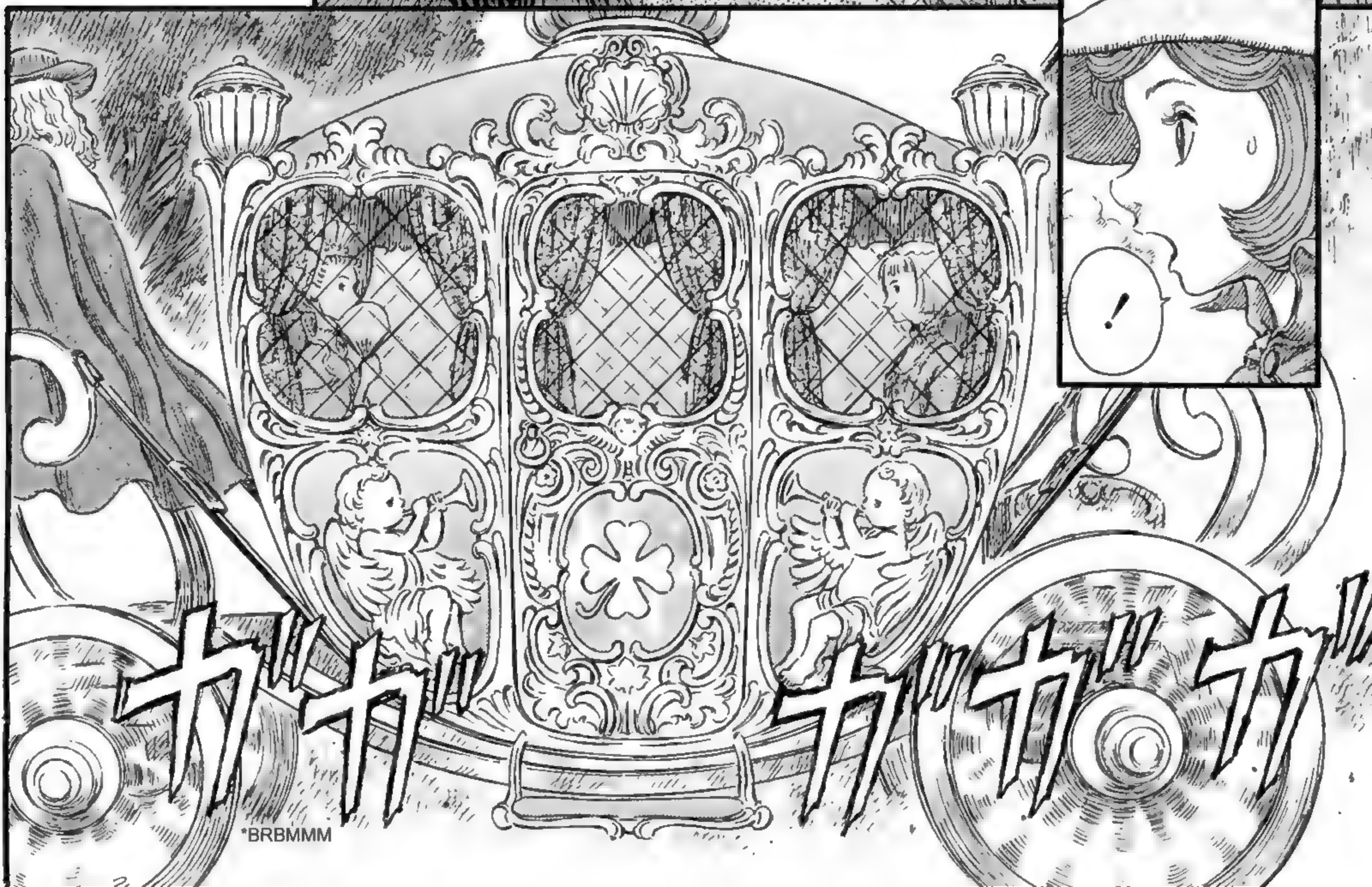
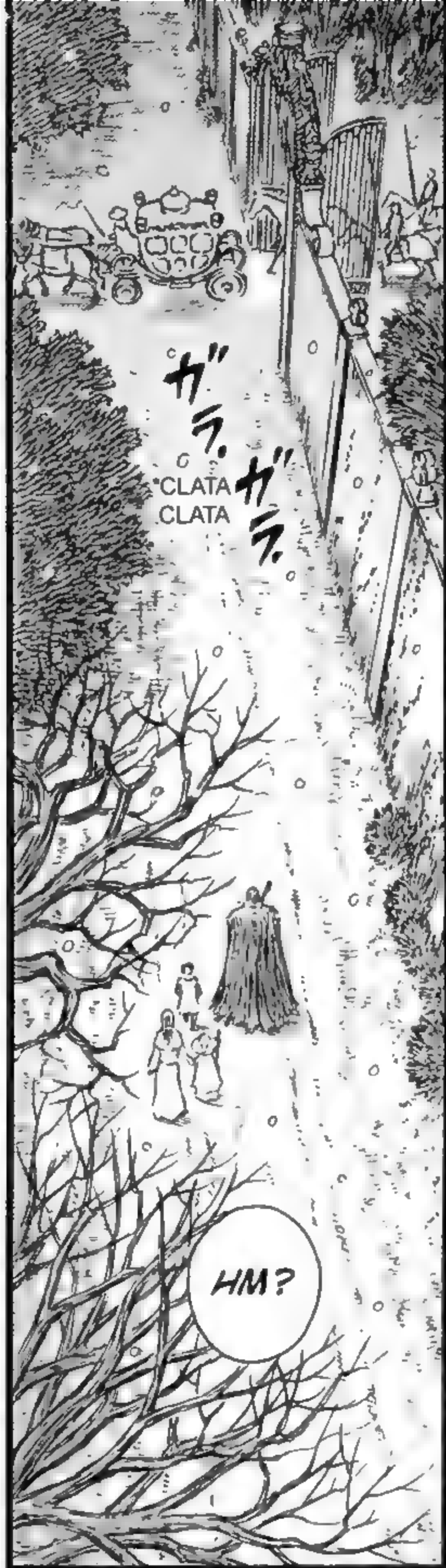


IN THAT  
CASE, IT IS  
EASIER  
TO FOCUS  
THIS WAY.

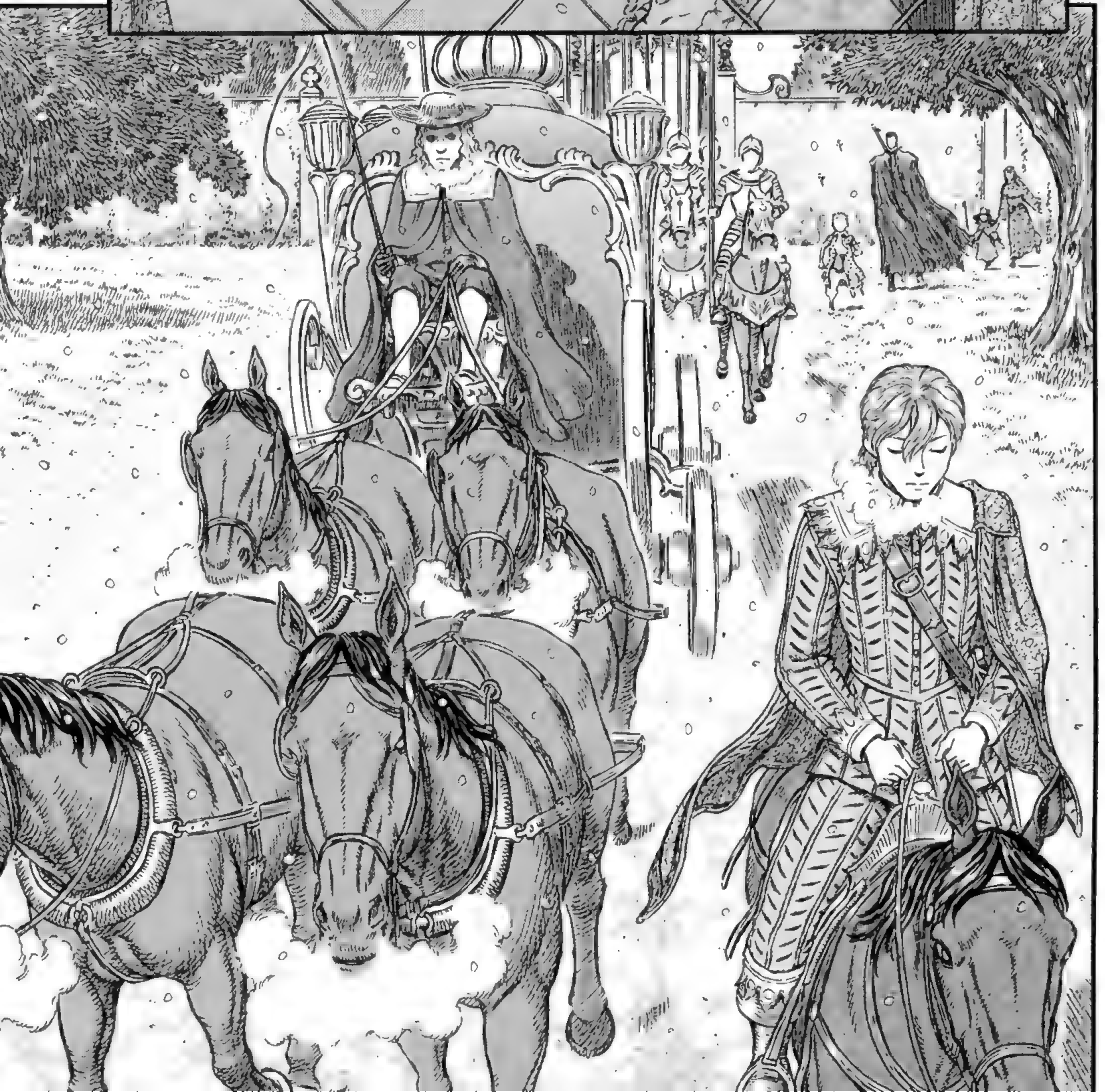
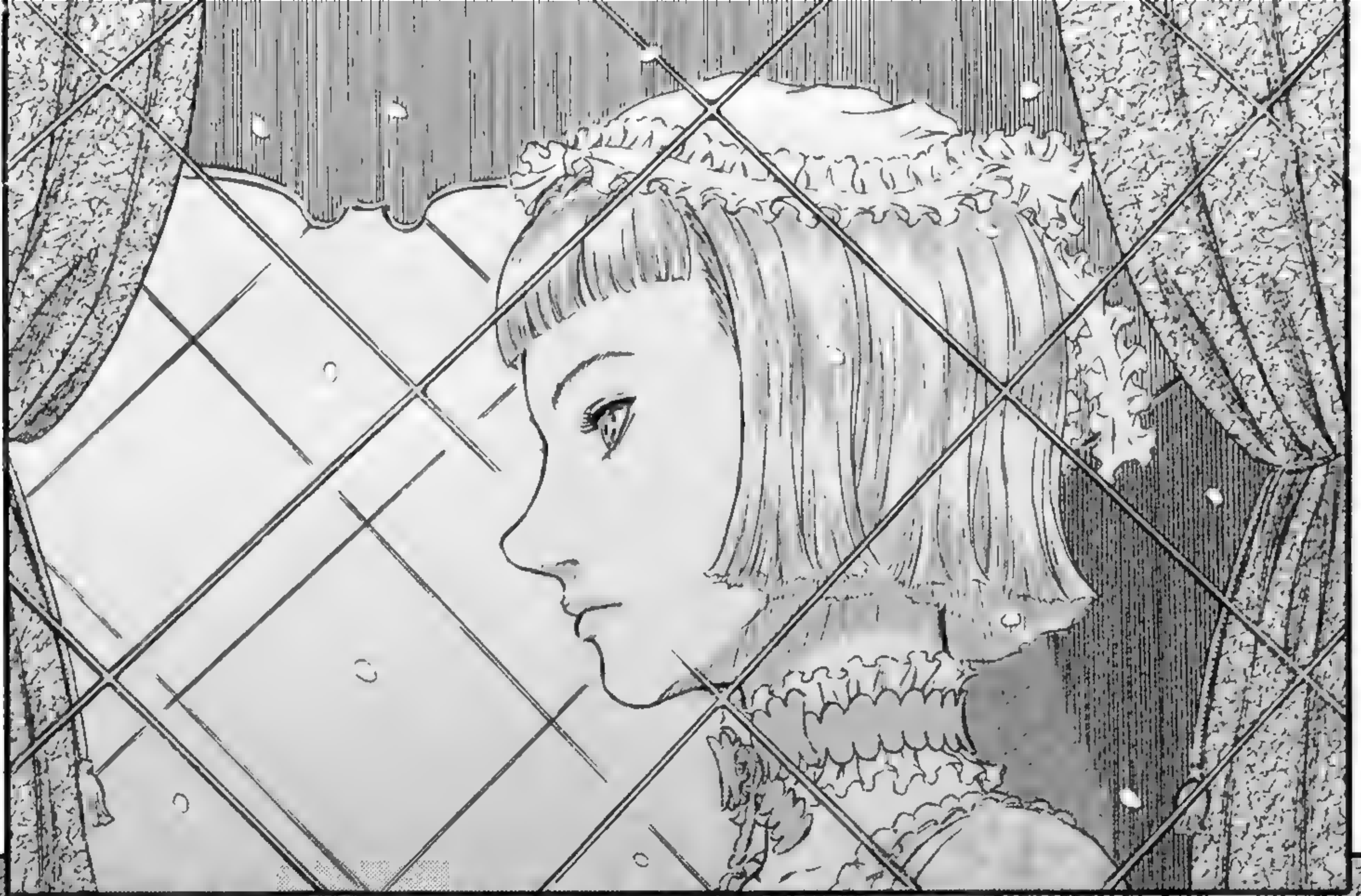
THE NEED  
FOR MAGIC  
MAY ALSO  
ARISE.

YUP,  
WITCHES  
ARE AS  
WITCHES  
WEAR.







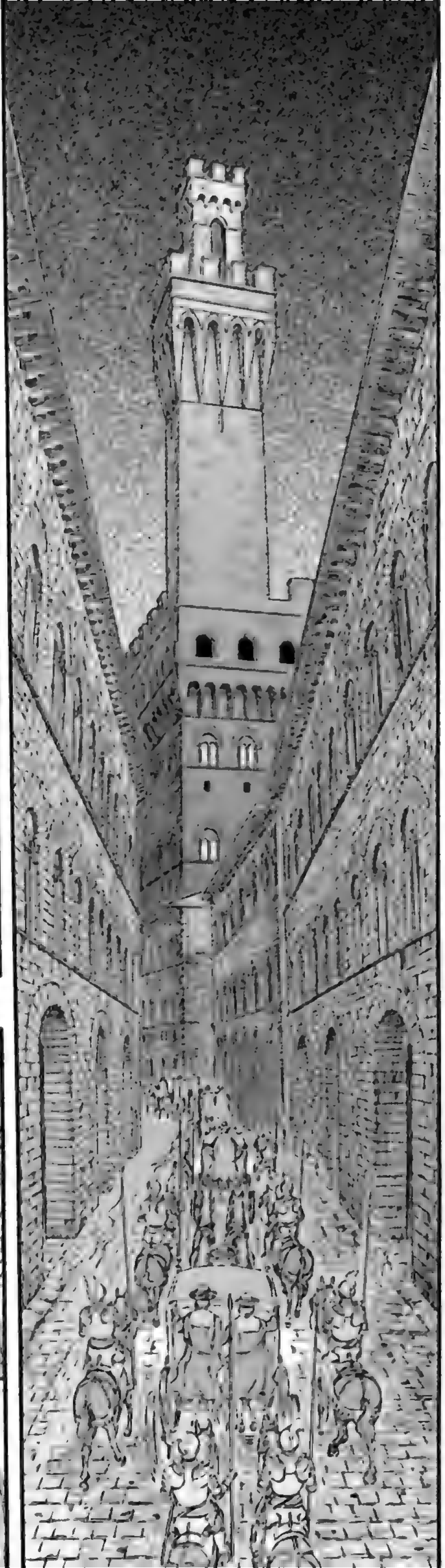
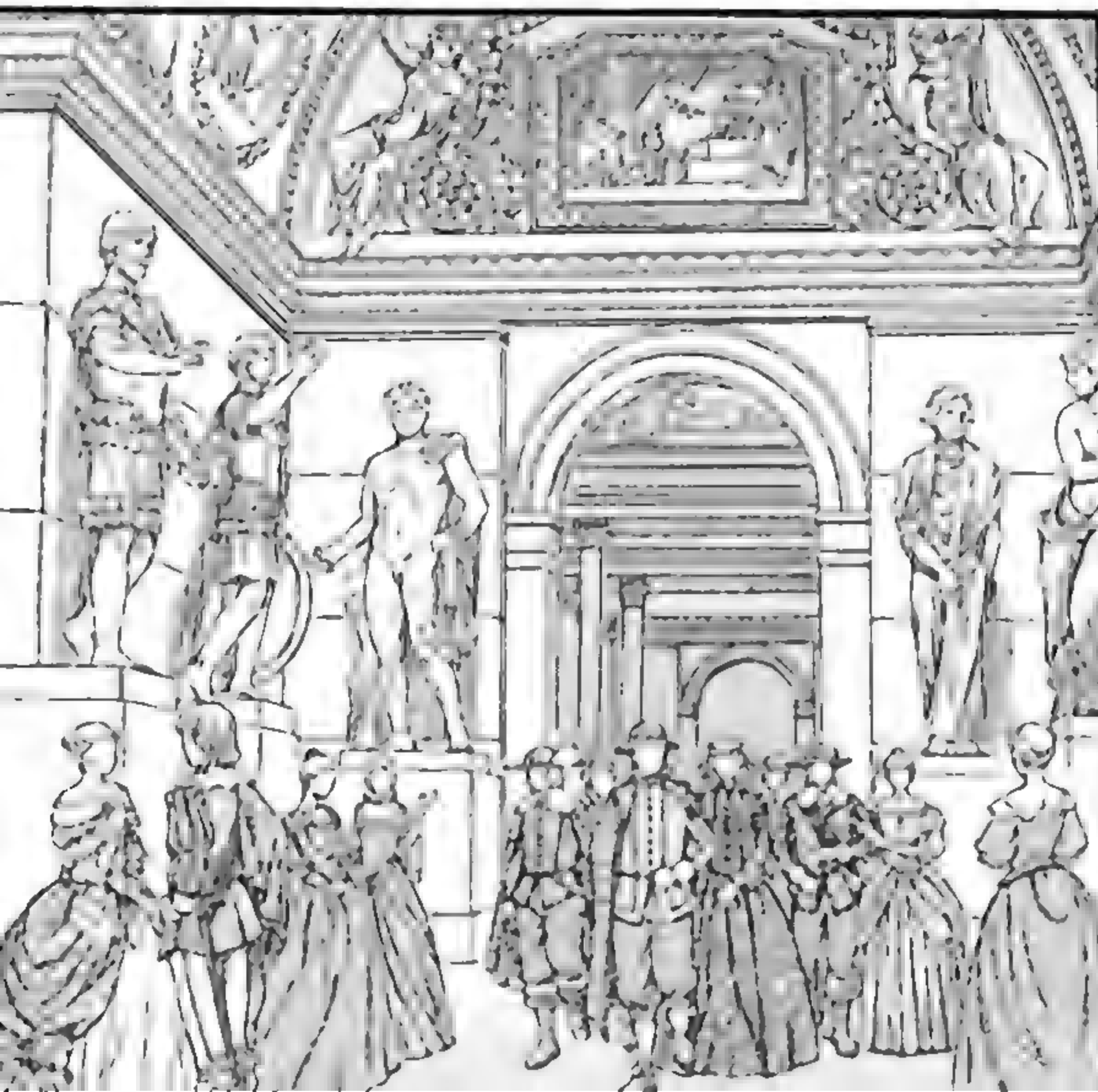




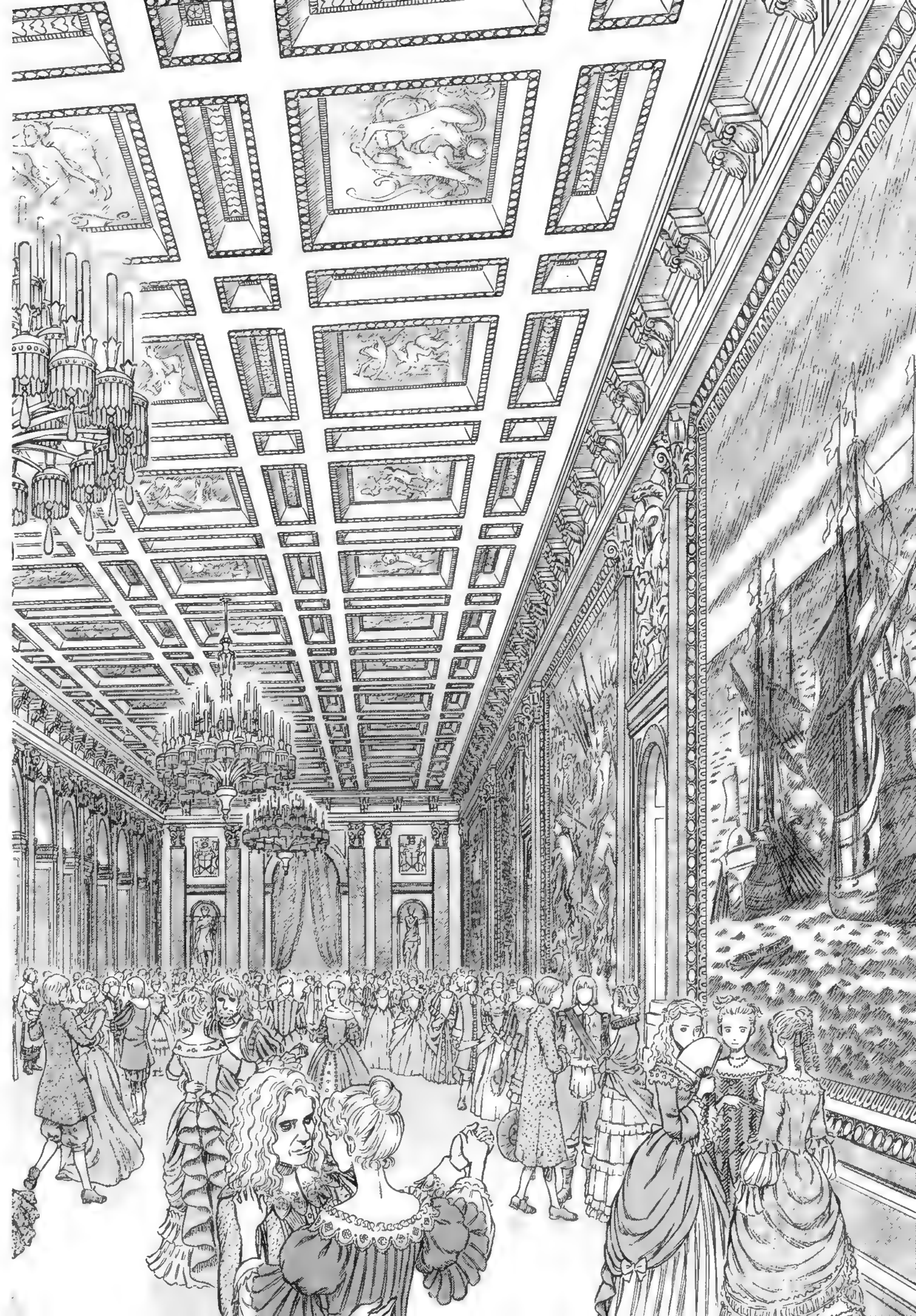
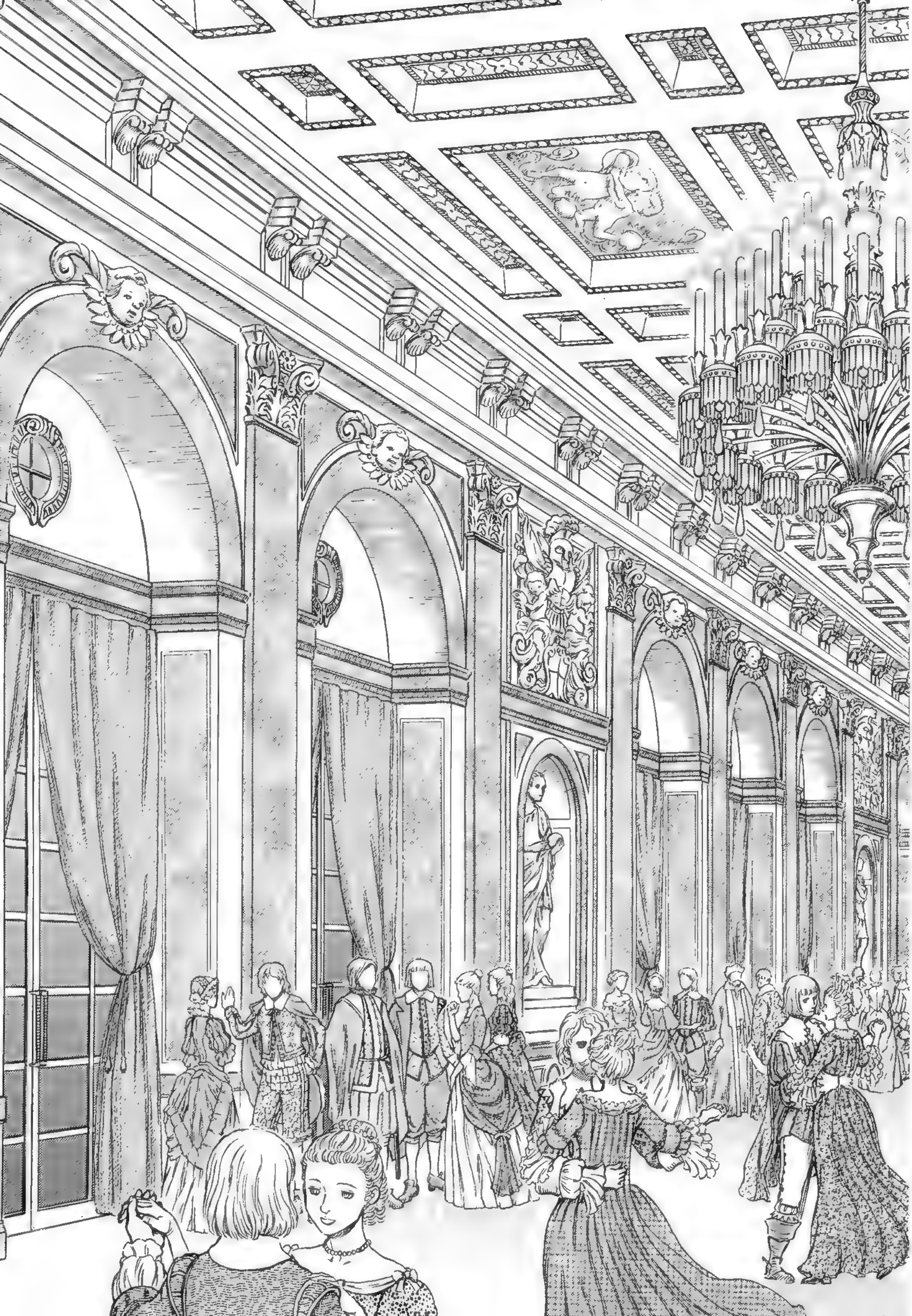
**THE BALL**  
**舞踏会**

**BERSERK**











GRAND  
GOVERNOR-  
GENERAL OF  
THE HOLY SEE  
REALM, AND  
RECOGNIZED AS  
THE LEADING  
CANDIDATE FOR  
THE NEXT  
PONTIFF.

POLIZIANO  
DO  
VANDIMION.

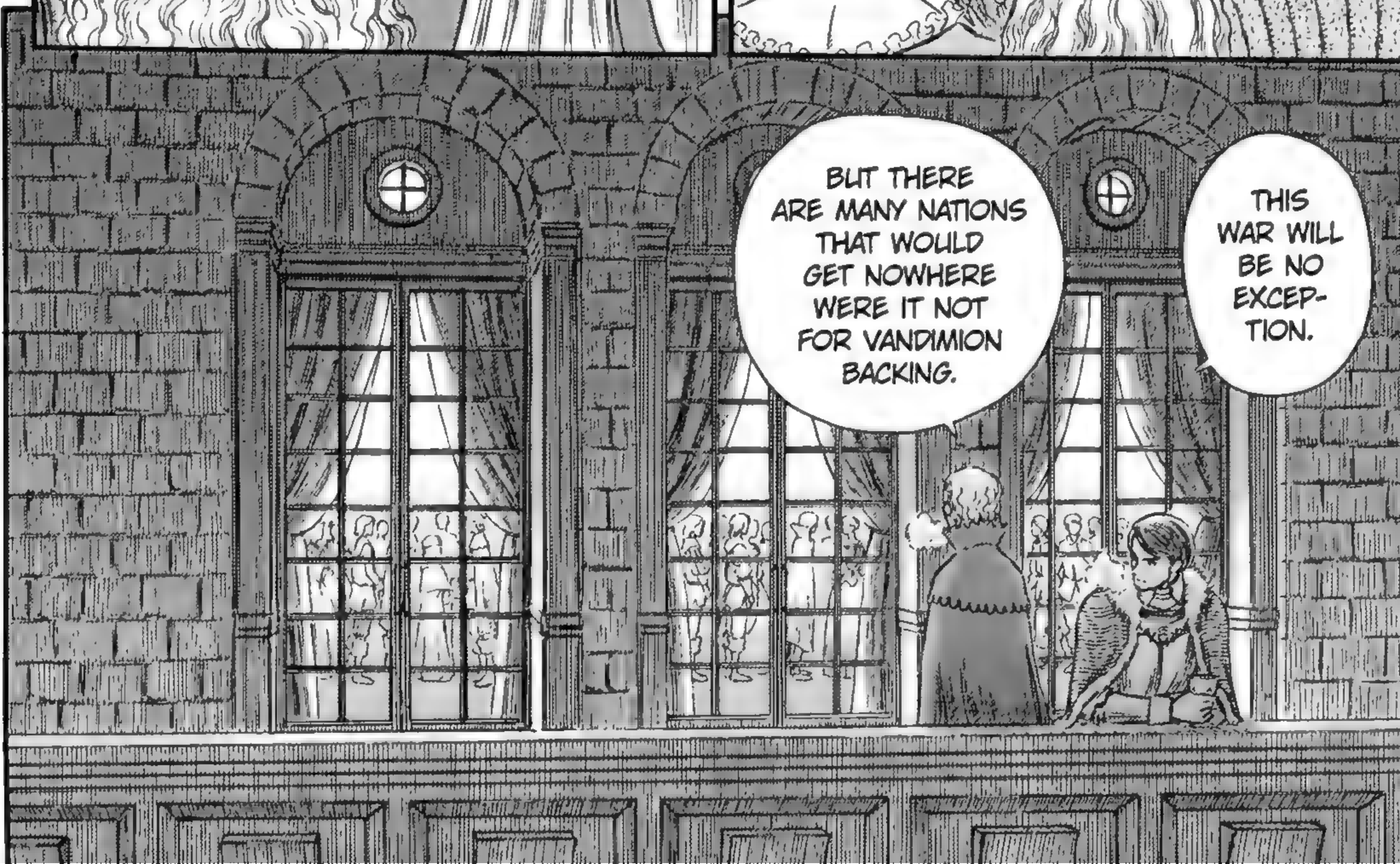
JOINT  
MANAGER OF THE  
VANDIMION  
BANK, FATHER'S  
RIGHT-HAND MAN,  
AND IN REALITY  
THE NEXT  
HEAD OF THE  
VANDIMION  
FAMILY.

GIORGIO DO  
VANDIMION.

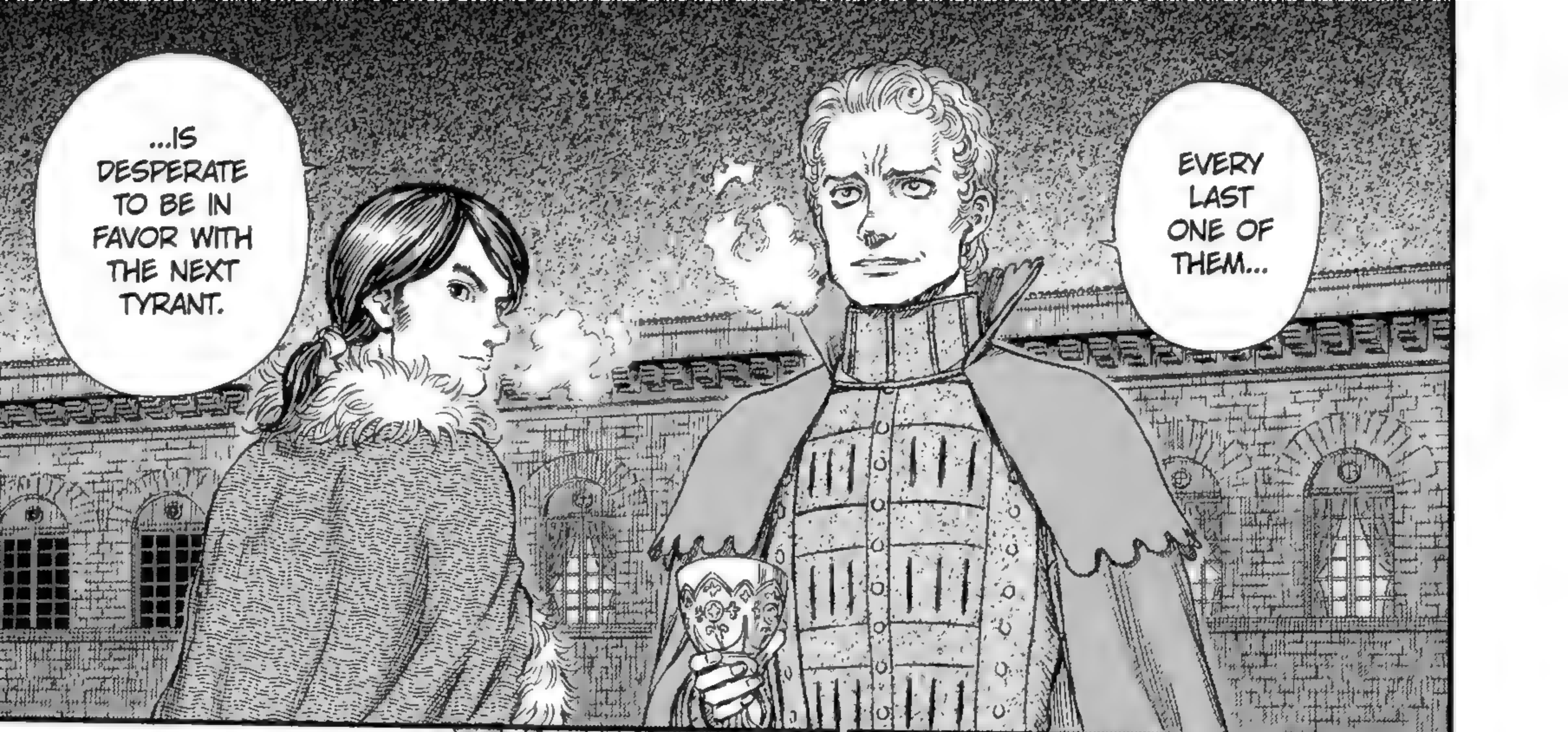


BUT THERE  
ARE MANY NATIONS  
THAT WOULD  
GET NOWHERE  
WERE IT NOT  
FOR VANDIMION  
BACKING.

THIS  
WAR WILL  
BE NO  
EXCEP-  
TION.

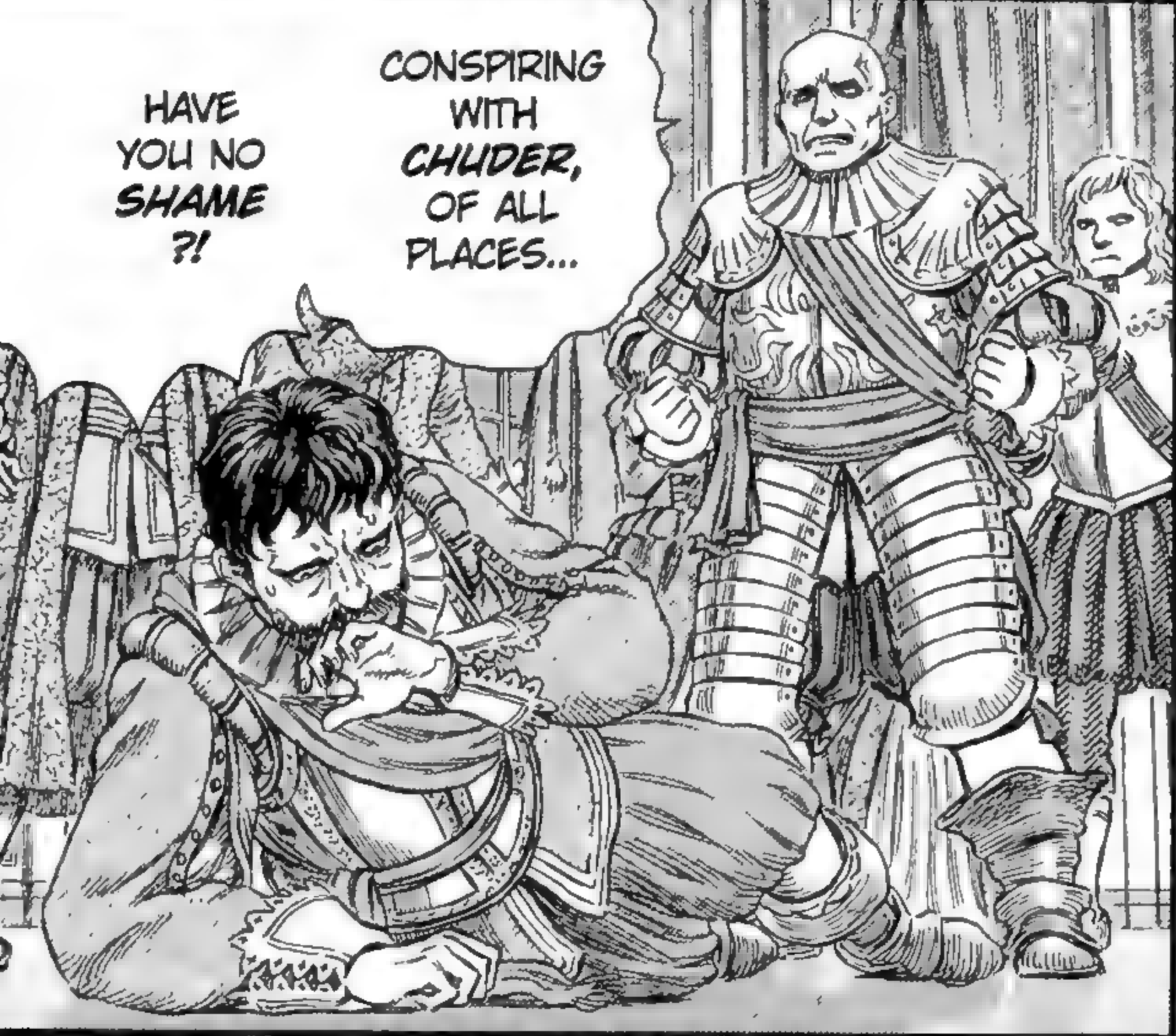






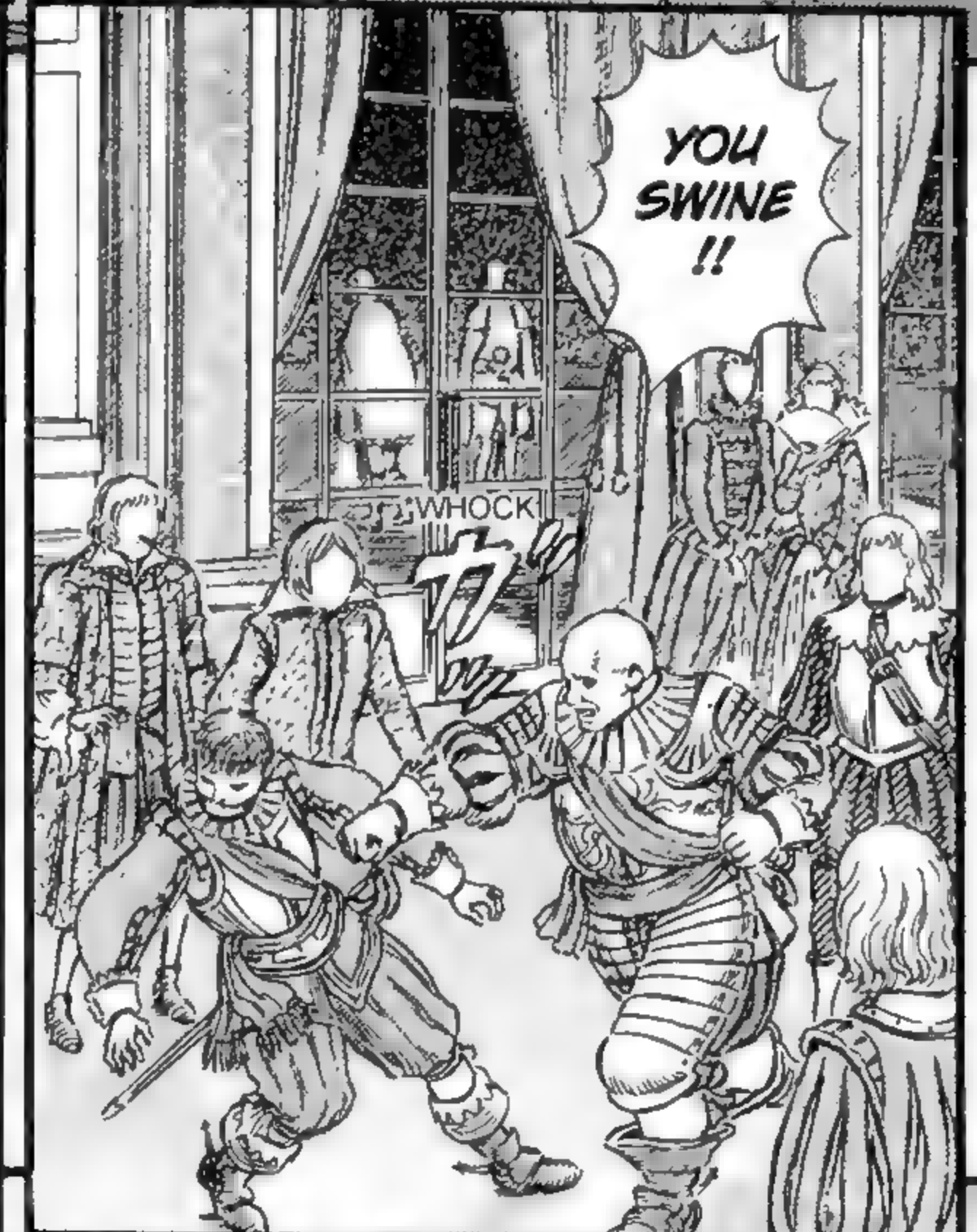
...IS  
DESPERATE  
TO BE IN  
FAVOR WITH  
THE NEXT  
TYRANT.

EVERY  
LAST  
ONE OF  
THEM...



HAVE  
YOU NO  
SHAME  
?!

CONSPIRING  
WITH  
CHUDER,  
OF ALL  
PLACES...



YOU  
SWINE  
!!



WHO  
ARE  
THEY?

AHH.



LORDS OF  
MIDLAND.



EVEN IF THE KUSHAN  
ARE REPELLED,  
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT  
EACH NATION'S ARMY  
WILL BY NO MEANS  
SHY AWAY FROM  
REMAINING THERE.

THE PUBLIC REASON  
FOR THIS WAR IS TO  
RECAPTURE HOLY SEE  
TERRITORY FROM  
THE KUSHAN INVASION,  
BUT EACH NATION'S  
TRUE MOTIVE IS TO  
CARVE MIDLAND'S  
DOMAIN INTO AS  
MANY PIECES AS  
POSSIBLE.

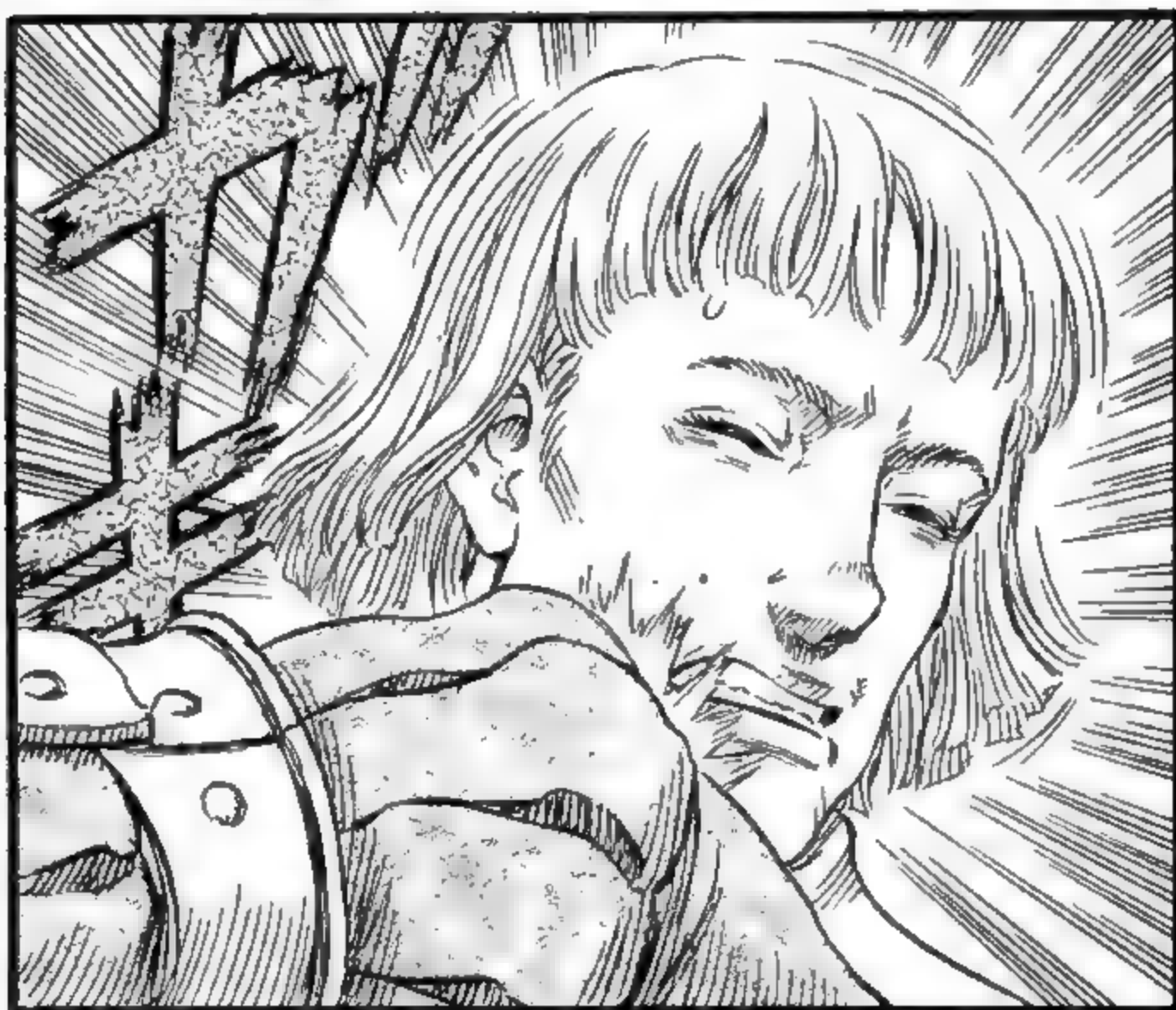
IF THEY CONDUCT  
THEMSELVES  
WELL, THEY MIGHT  
AT LEAST PROCURE  
THE POSITION  
OF REGIONAL  
GOVERNOR-  
GENERAL.

THAT'S  
WHERE  
THEIR  
THOUGHTS  
LIE.

TO THAT  
END, WHAT  
COUNTRY,  
WHAT POWER,  
WILL THEY  
SIDE WITH?

AND NOW,  
WITH NO  
KINGDOM,  
HOW WILL  
THEY REGAIN  
THEIR TERRI-  
TORIES?

\*FX: WHACK



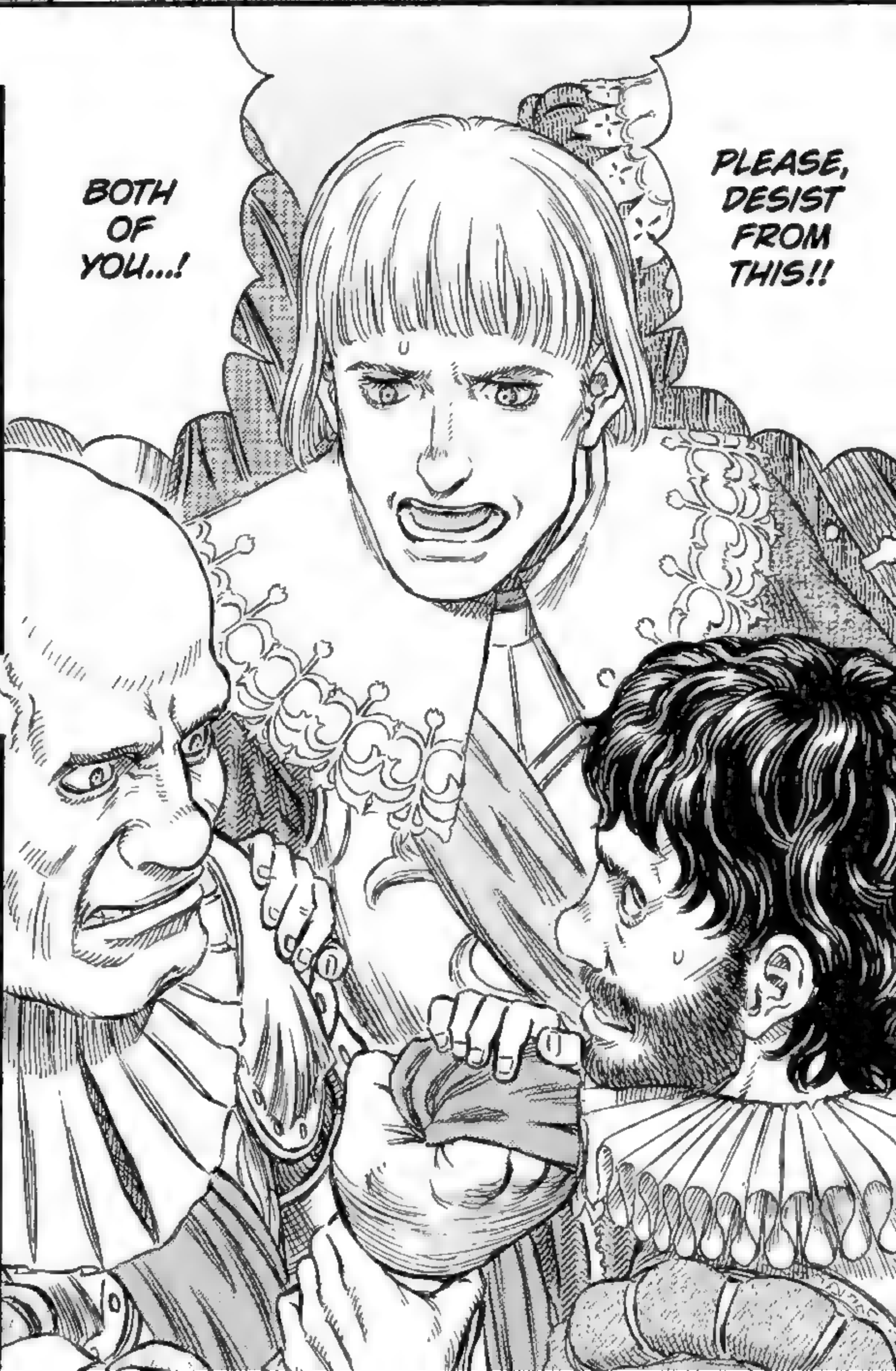
BOTH  
OF  
YOU...!

PLEASE,  
DESIST  
FROM  
THIS!!

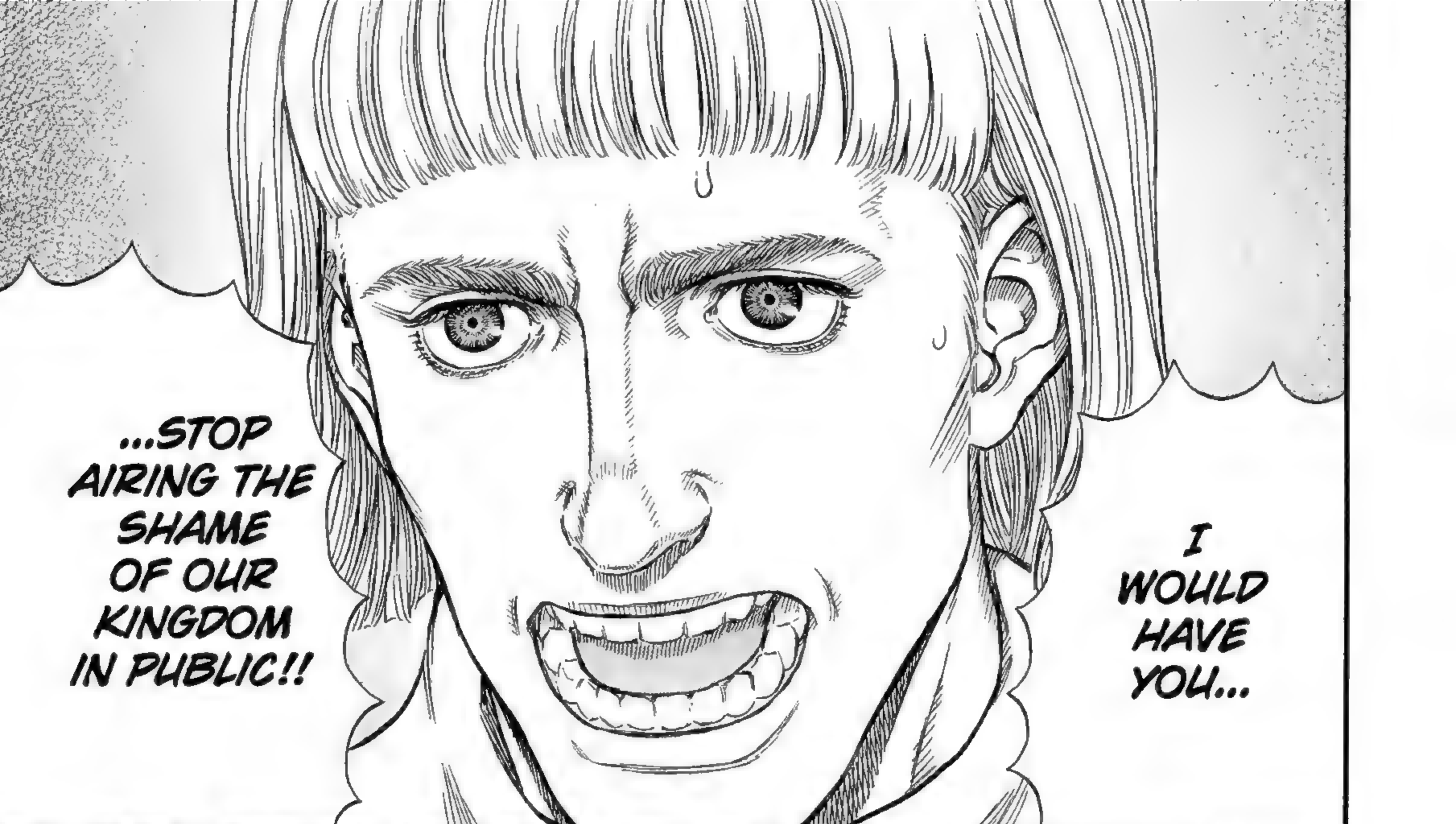
UNHAND  
ME!!

ARGHH  
!!

STOP  
IT!!







**...STOP  
AIRING THE  
SHAME  
OF OUR  
KINGDOM  
IN PUBLIC!!**

**I  
WOULD  
HAVE  
YOU...**



**BUT FROM  
WHOM I  
MEAN TO ASK  
ASSISTANCE  
IS NOT SOME  
RANDOM  
ARISTOCRAT  
OR ROYALTY.**

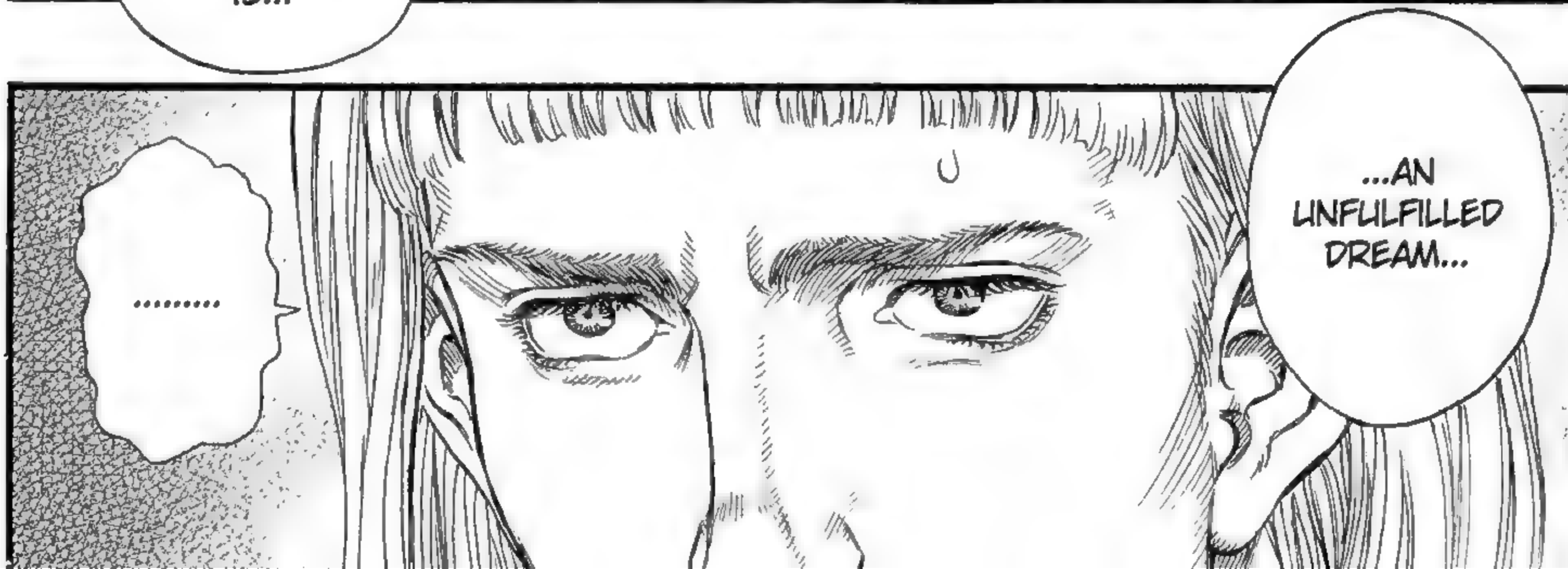
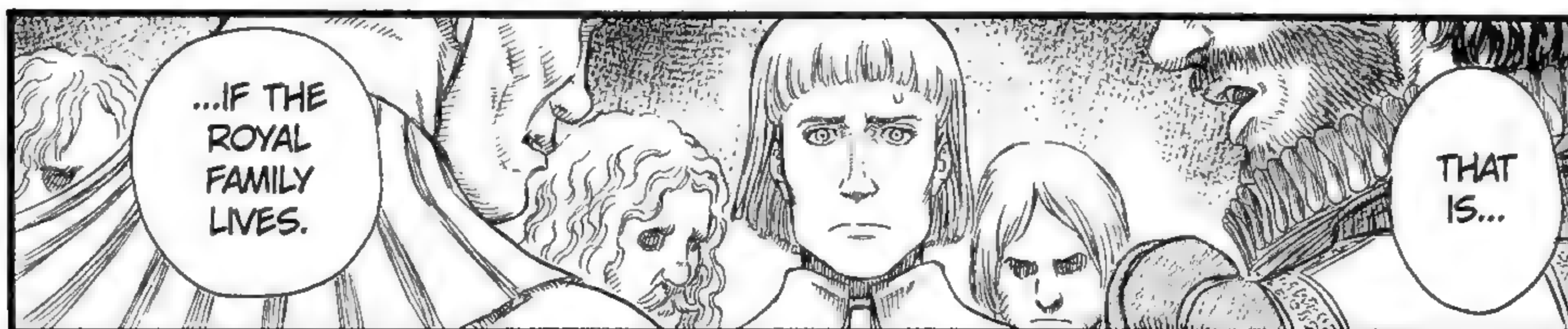
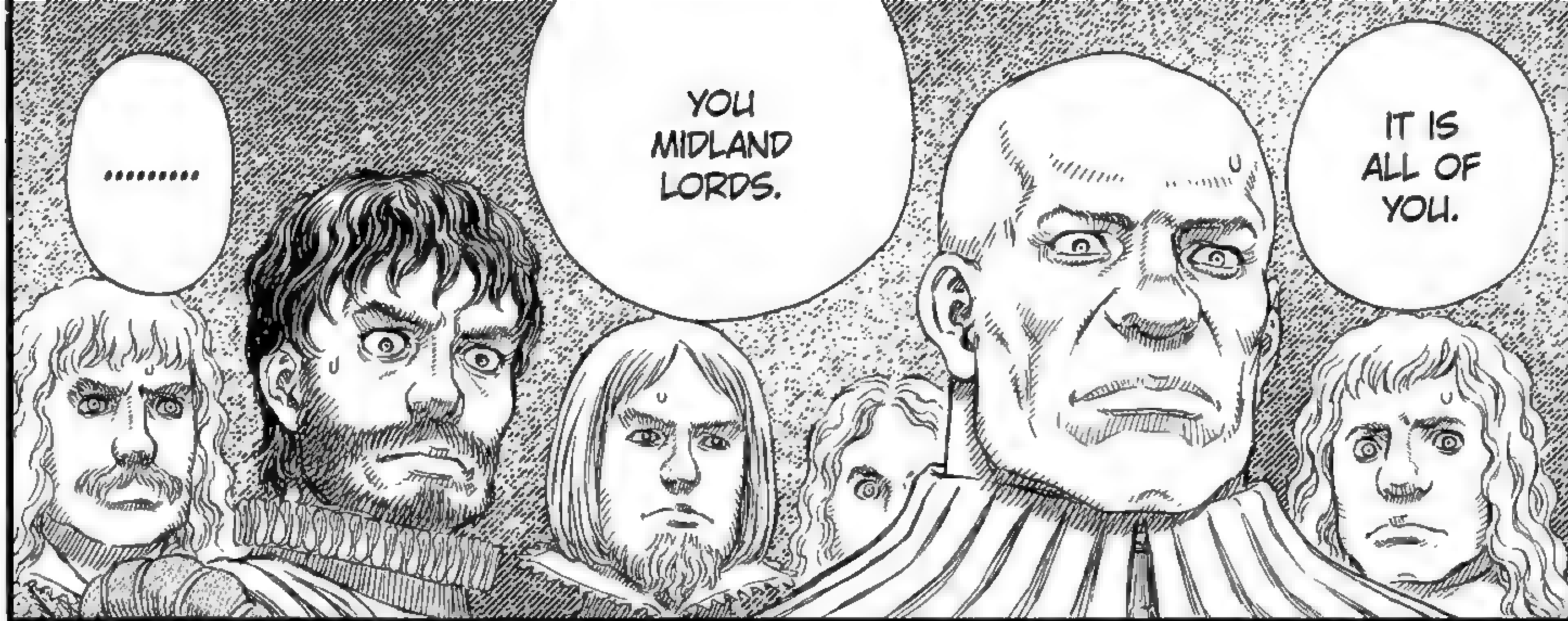
**CER-  
TAINLY.**



**SIR  
OWEN.**

**DIDN'T  
WE NOBLES  
EACH COME  
TO THIS  
PLACE IN  
SEARCH OF  
ASSISTANCE?**

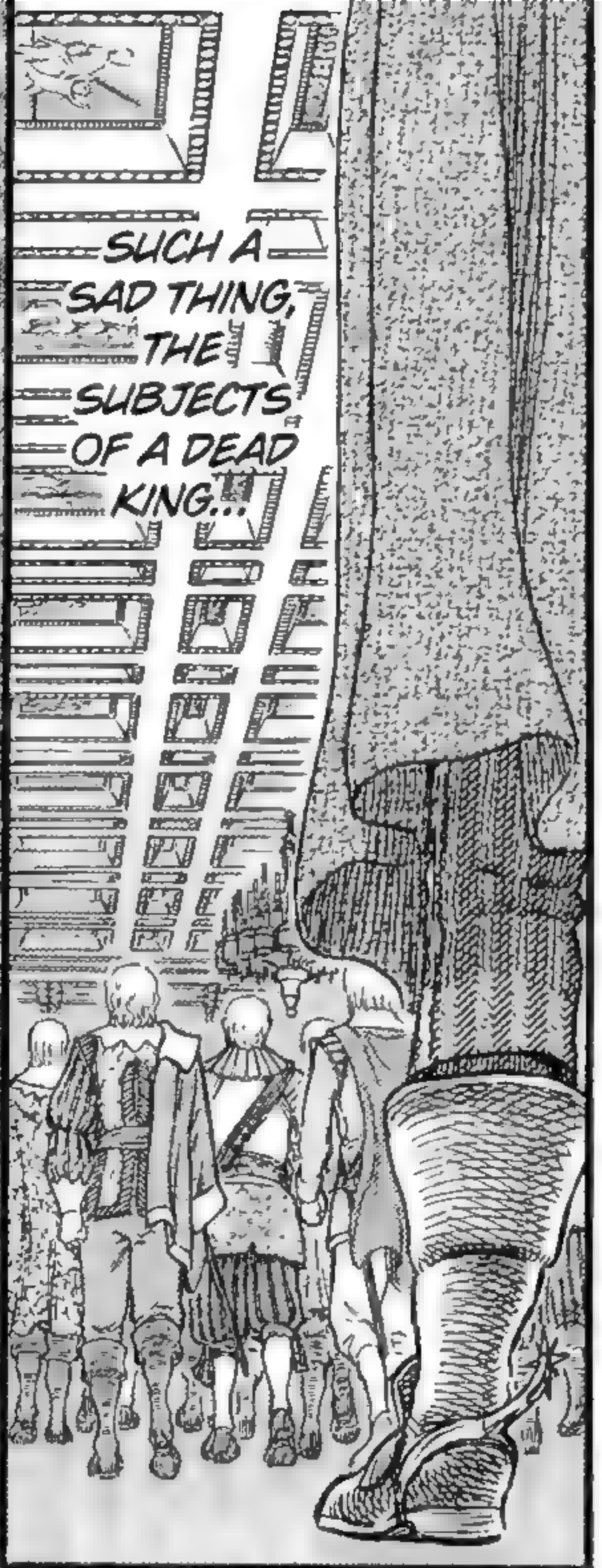








SIR LABAN,  
WHERE ARE  
YOU NOW...?  
DID YOU  
MANAGE  
TO SAFELY  
INFILTRATE  
WINDHAM?



SUCH A  
SAD THING,  
THE  
SUBJECTS  
OF A DEAD  
KING...

WHAT OF  
PRINCESS  
CHARLOTTE'S  
SAFETY...?



...AND IT  
STINGS.

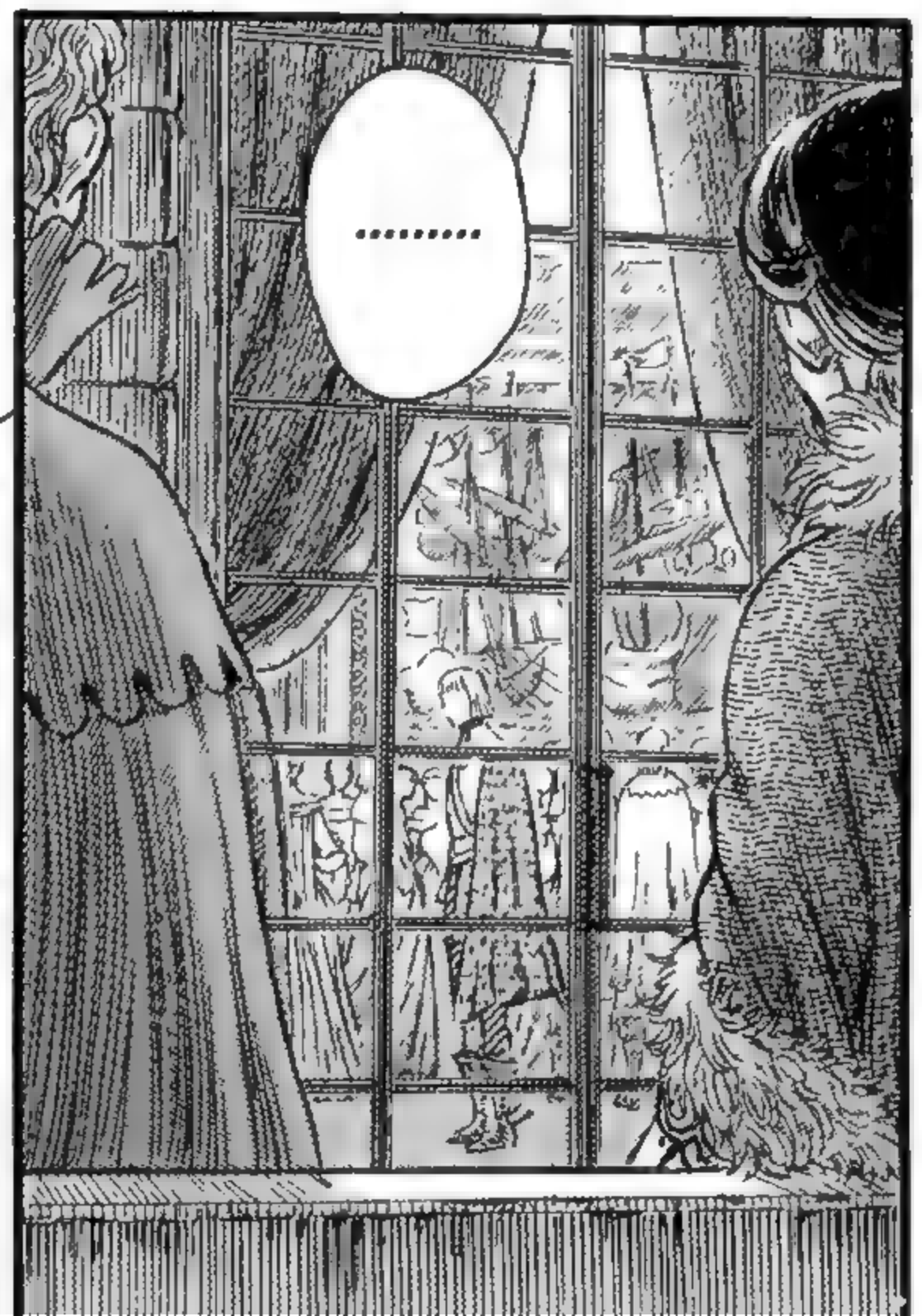


I CAN DO  
NOTHING  
FOR YOU...



WHAT A  
MISERABLE  
THOUGHT.

KNIGHTS  
OF A DEAD  
KINGDOM...



.....





AND AS ONE  
DESPAIRED  
BY HIS OWN  
FAMILY, I SAY  
THE SAME.



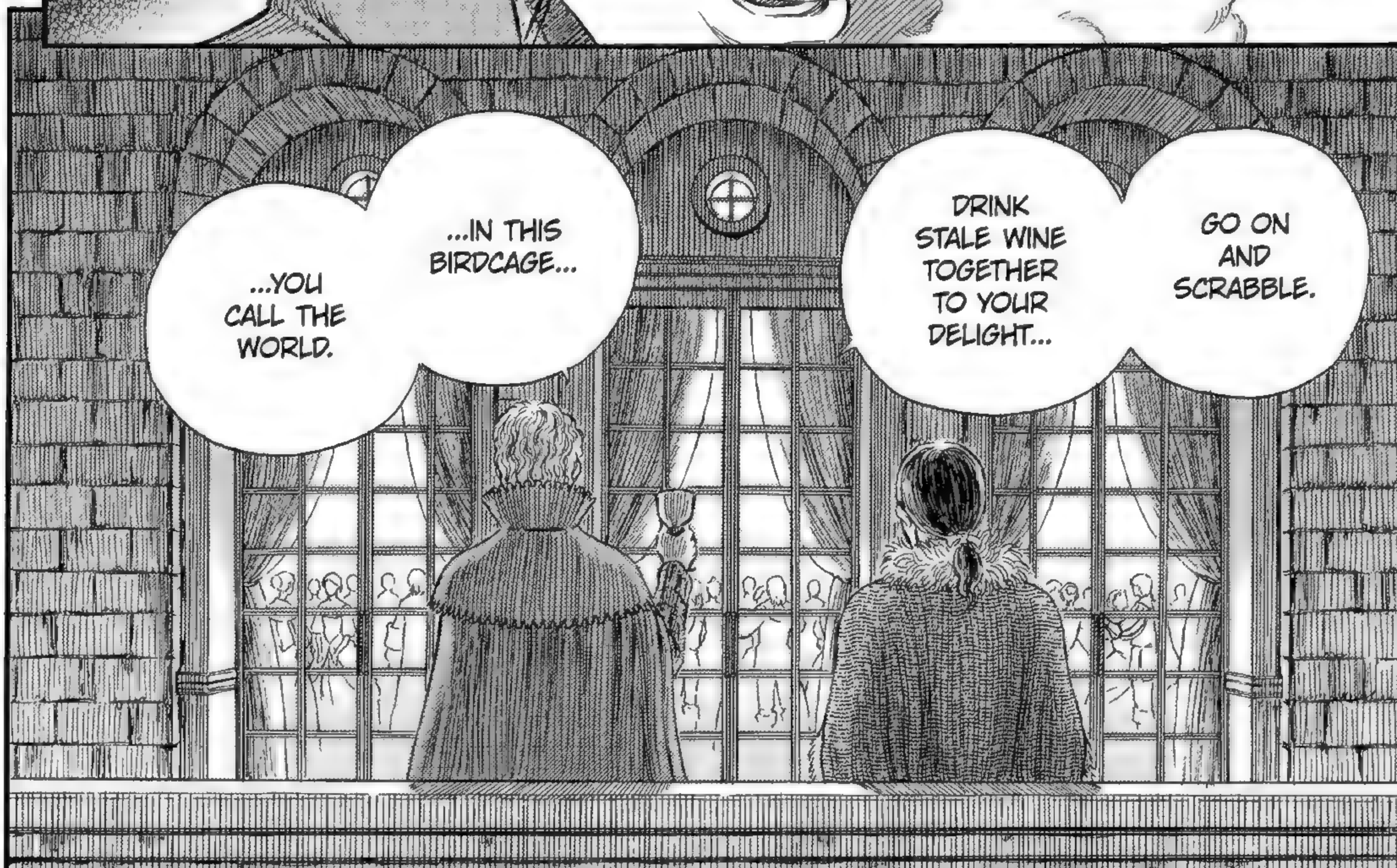
...MY  
HAT'S  
OFF TO  
THEM.

SPEAKING  
AS ONE  
DESPAIRED BY  
HIS OWN  
COUNTRY...



...REMAINING  
YEARS LIVING  
IN SUCH  
IDLENESS.

BUT WE'RE  
YOUNG,  
AND WE'LL  
NEVER SPEND  
OUR...



...YOU  
CALL THE  
WORLD.

...IN THIS  
BIRDCAGE...

DRINK  
STALE WINE  
TOGETHER  
TO YOUR  
DELIGHT...

GO ON  
AND  
SCRABBLE.



HE WHO  
OPENS THE  
UNKNOWN  
SEA ROUTES  
AND SETS  
FOOT UPON  
UNEXPLORED  
LANDS...

HE WHO  
CONQUERS  
**THOSE**  
WILL BE THE  
CONQUEROR  
OF THE AGE.

WHAT'S TO  
COME IS NOT  
AN AGE OF  
THE GENTLE,  
FULLY MAPPED  
INLAND SEAS...

...BUT  
OF THE  
RAGING,  
OPEN  
OCEAN.



**IITH**, ON THE NORTHERN  
FRONTIER, SURROUNDED BY  
OCEAN, HAS, UNLIKE OTHER  
PRINCIPALITIES, BUILT UP A  
HISTORY OF SHIPBUILDING,  
SEAFARING, AND A REFUSAL  
TO YIELD TO THE ROUGH SEA.  
PAYING NO MIND TO THAT  
SUPERIORITY, THEIR INSULAR-  
ISM MAKES THEM LOATHE THE  
INTERVENTION OF OTHER  
NATIONS, AND THEY THINK OF  
NOTHING BUT SECLUSION.

NEITHER MY  
FATHER NOR  
MY SUBJECTS  
ACTUALLY  
UNDERSTAND  
THAT POINT.



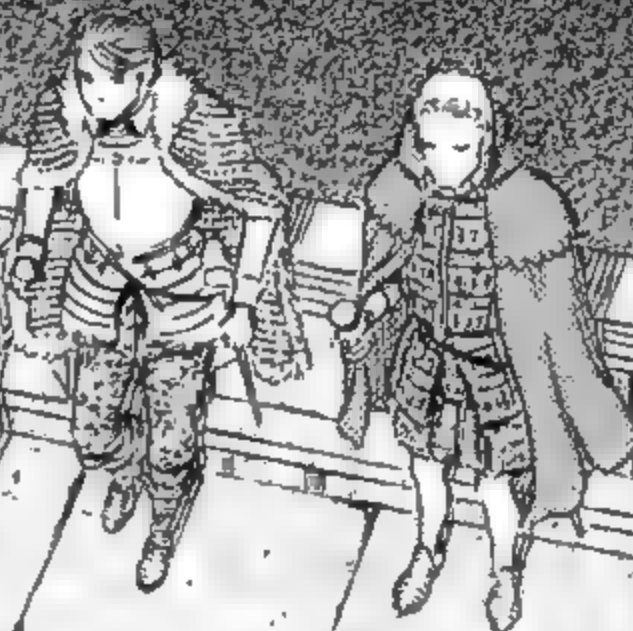
...HOW TO  
MOVE AND  
REARRANGE  
PIECES ON  
HIS LIMITED  
CHESSBOARD.

MY FATHER  
IS THE SAME.  
HE DISPLAYS  
INTEREST IN  
NOTHING  
BEYOND...



...ARE  
FORLORN  
FELLOWS IN  
THIS CAGED  
WORLD.

WE TWO,  
ALIENATED BY  
FAMILY AND  
ABANDONED  
BY NATION...







IF  
WE'RE TO  
WANDER  
FORLORN...

...WE'LL  
JUST PUT  
TO SEA.



WE WILL  
SEIZE THE  
COMING  
AGE.

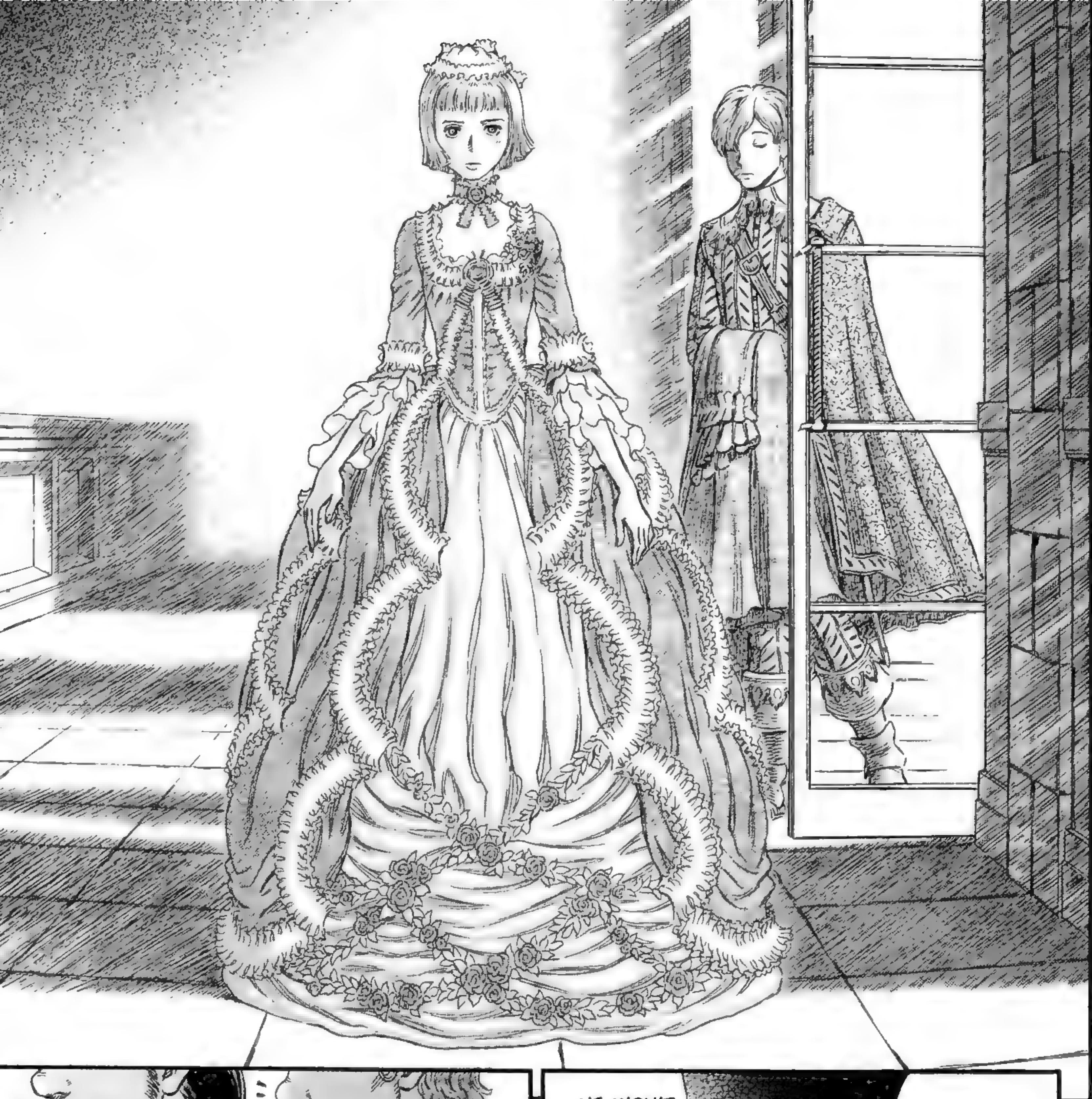


OUR BOND,  
THE GODDESS  
OF VICTORY,  
ARRIVES.



BROTHER.





I LIKE  
THAT SIDE  
OF YOU...

HOLD  
THAT  
THOUGHT,  
MANIFICO.



...ENOUGH  
INELEGANT  
TALK.

BUT  
FOR  
NOW...

...HE WON'T  
BE ABLE TO  
CANCEL IT  
ON PERIL OF  
HIS HONOR  
AS FAMILY  
HEAD. ONCE  
THAT'S  
DONE, NOT  
ONLY YOU  
AND I, BUT  
VANDIMION  
AND IITH  
WILL BE...



NO MATTER  
WHAT  
FATHER MAY  
SAY, WE'RE  
IN PUBLIC.  
ONCE THIS  
BETROTHAL  
IS OFFICIALLY  
ANNOUNCED  
...





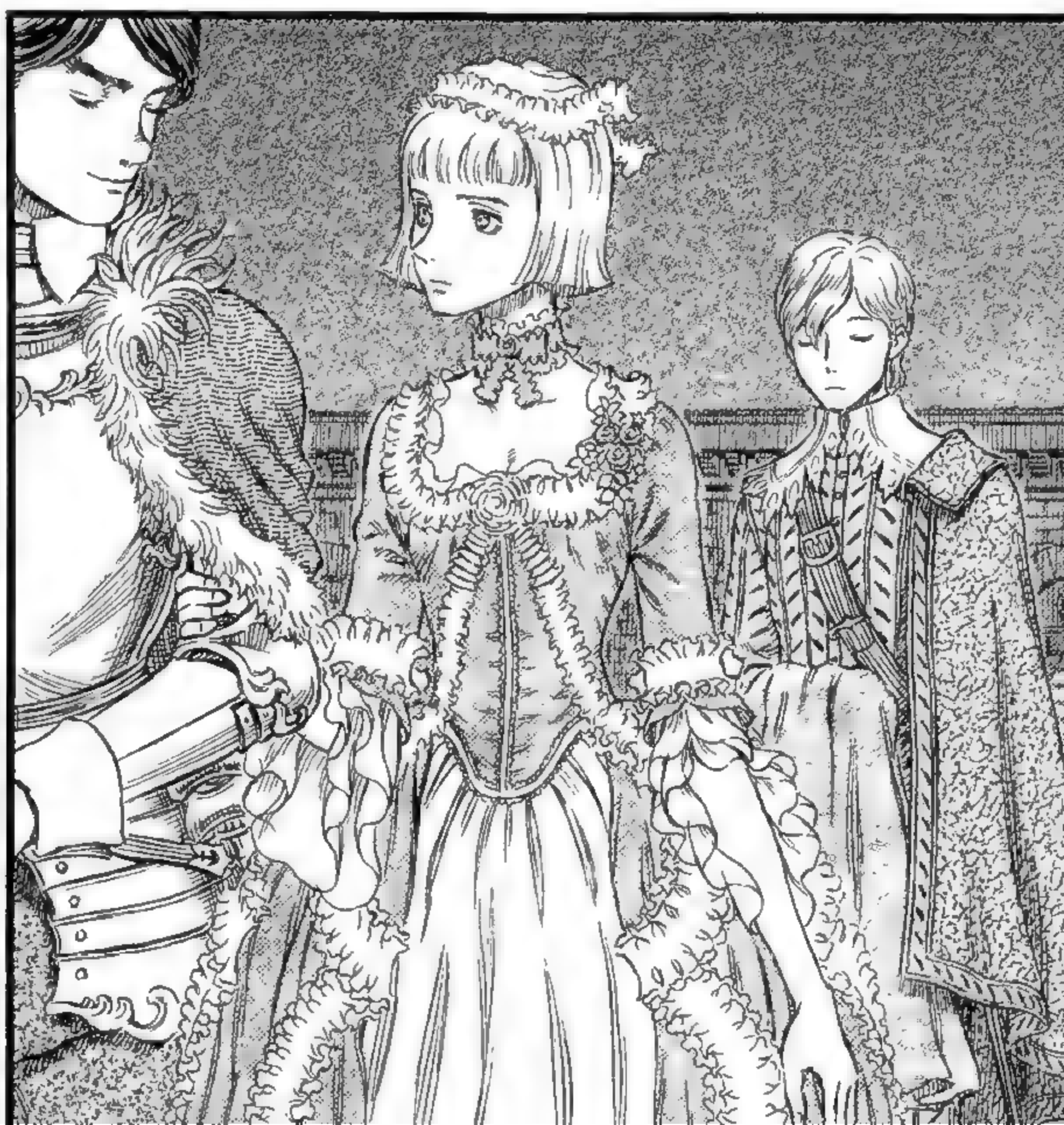
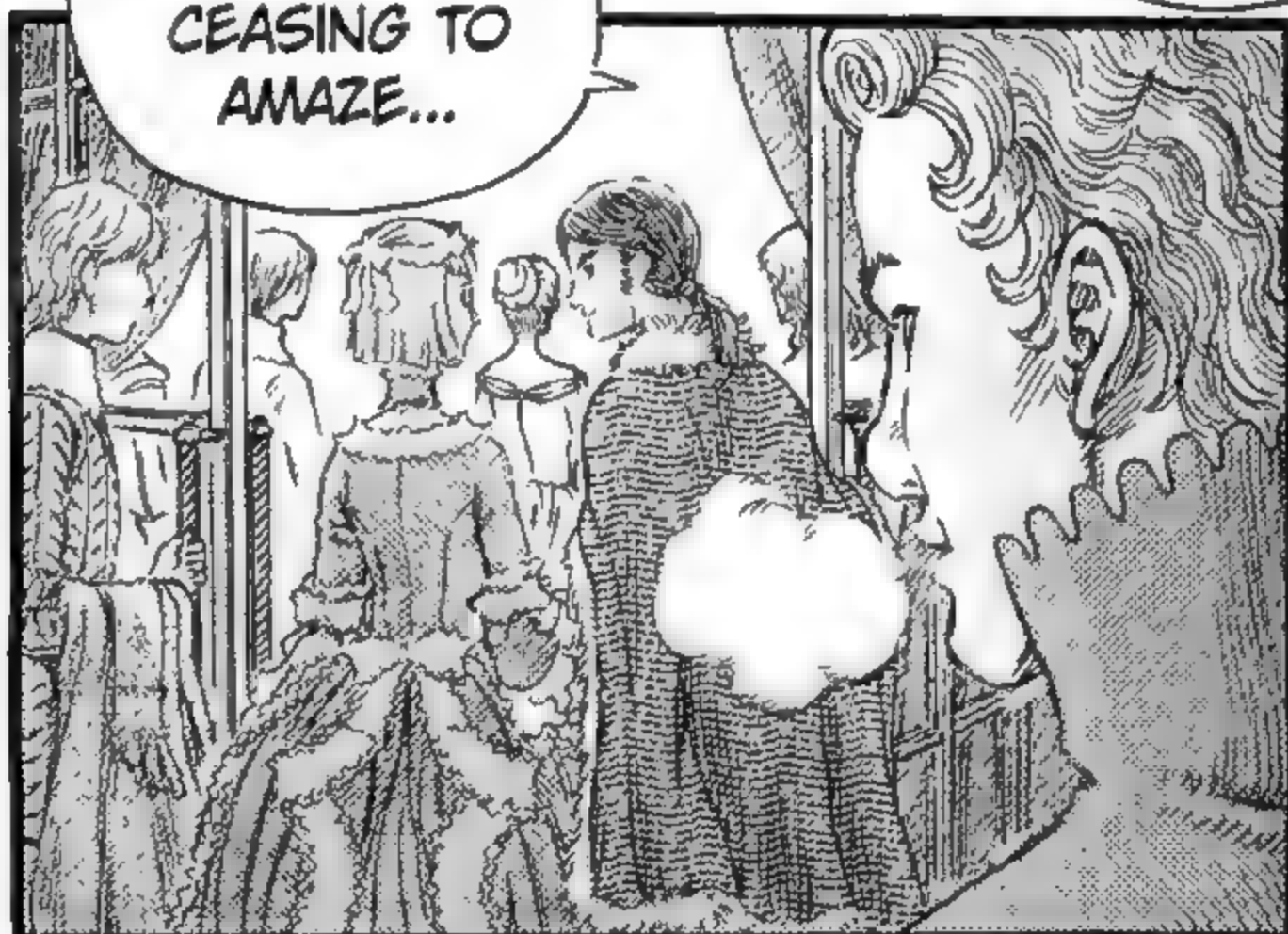
I'VE  
LOOKED  
FORWARD  
TO SEEING  
YOU, MY  
PRINCESS.



I WONDER  
IF I MAY  
REQUEST  
THE FIRST  
DANCE  
WITH YOU?

Y-YOU  
MAY...

MY, MY, NEVER  
CEASING TO  
AMAZE...



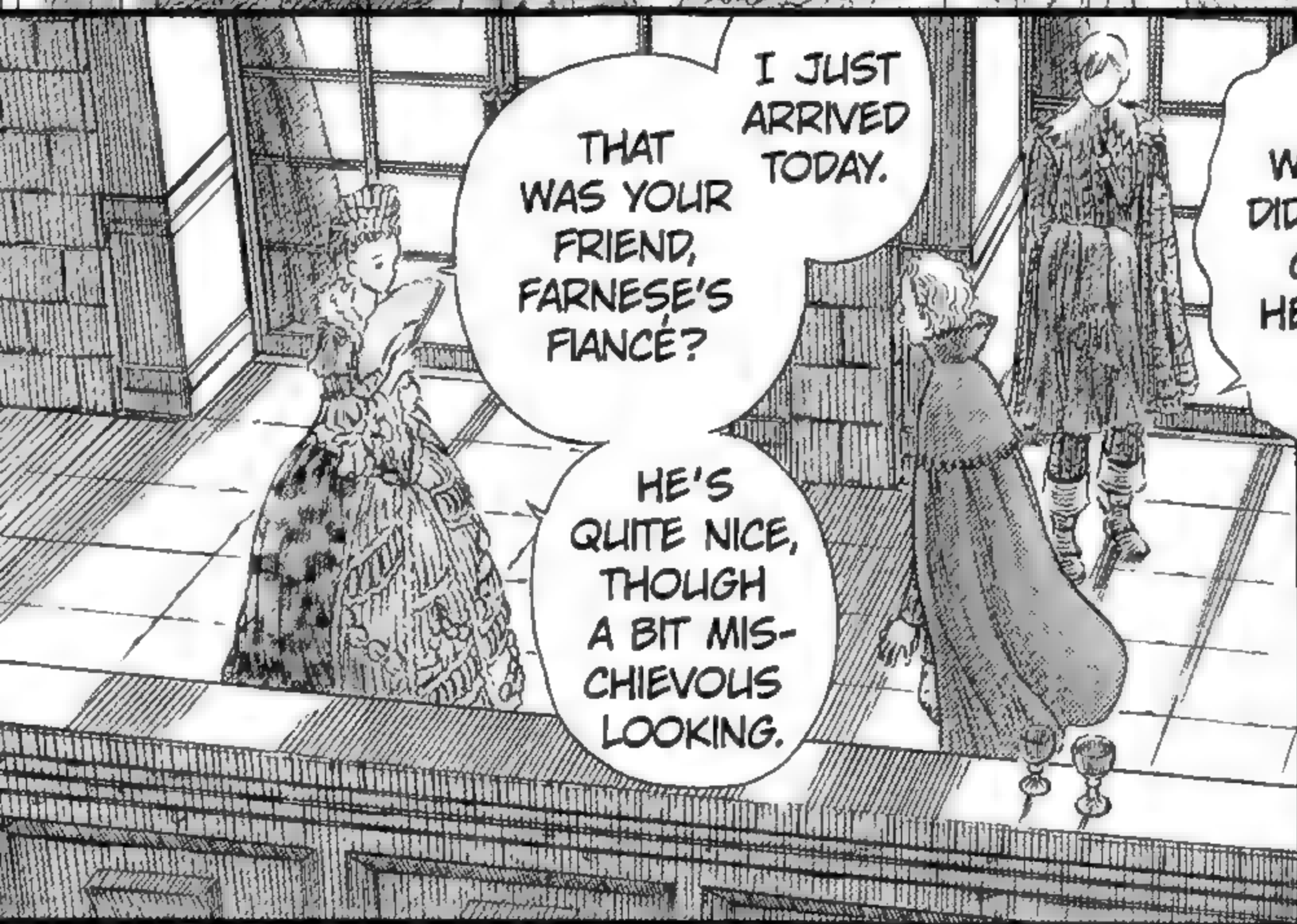
WHAT A  
SUPERB  
GENTLE-  
MAN.





...MANIFICO?

WON'T YOU  
INTRODUCE  
ME, TOO...



THAT  
WAS YOUR  
FRIEND,  
FARNESE'S  
FIANCÉ?

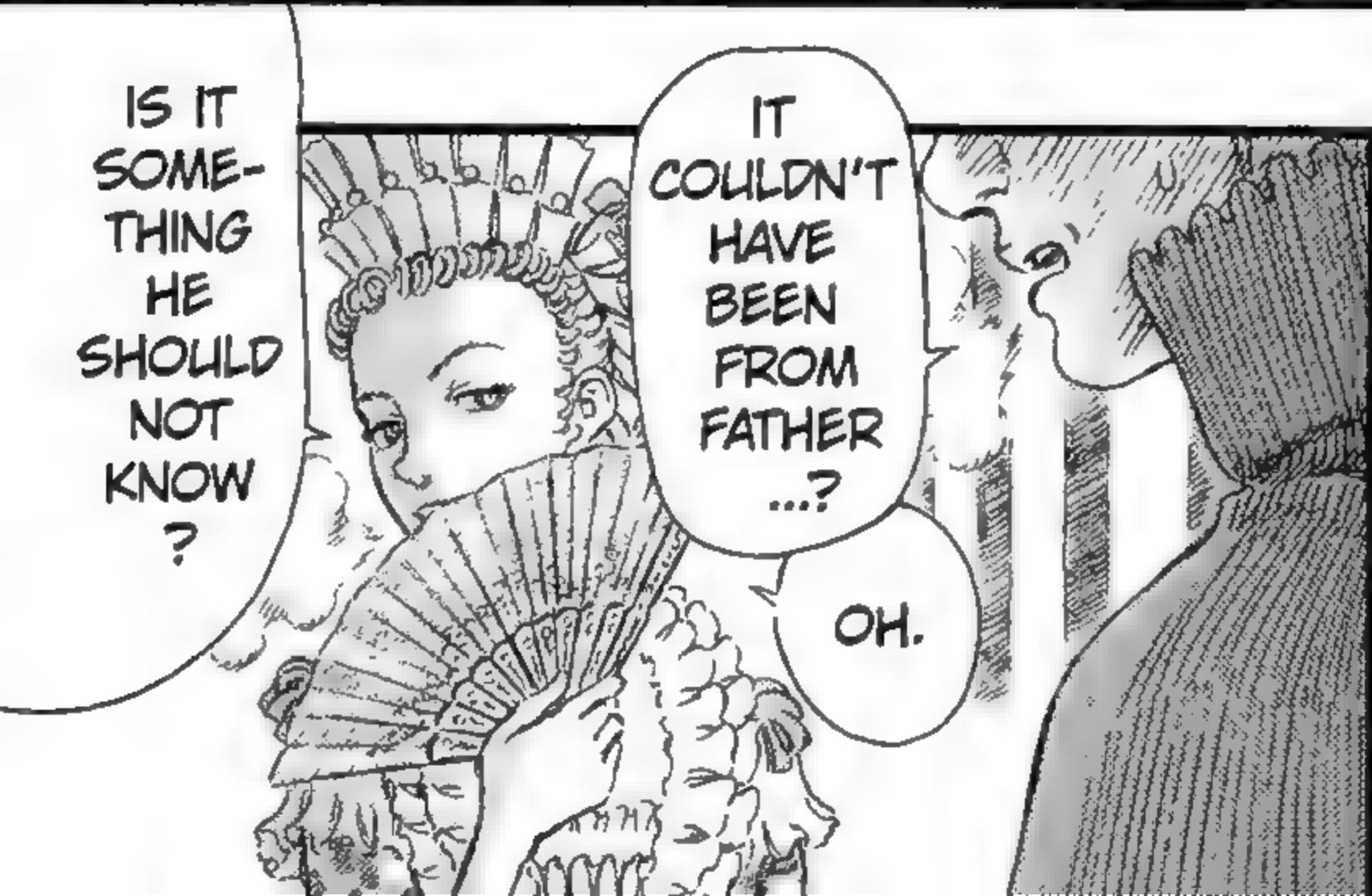
I JUST  
ARRIVED  
TODAY.

HE'S  
QUITE NICE,  
THOUGH  
A BIT MIS-  
CHIEVOUS  
LOOKING.

WHEN  
DID YOU  
GET  
HERE?



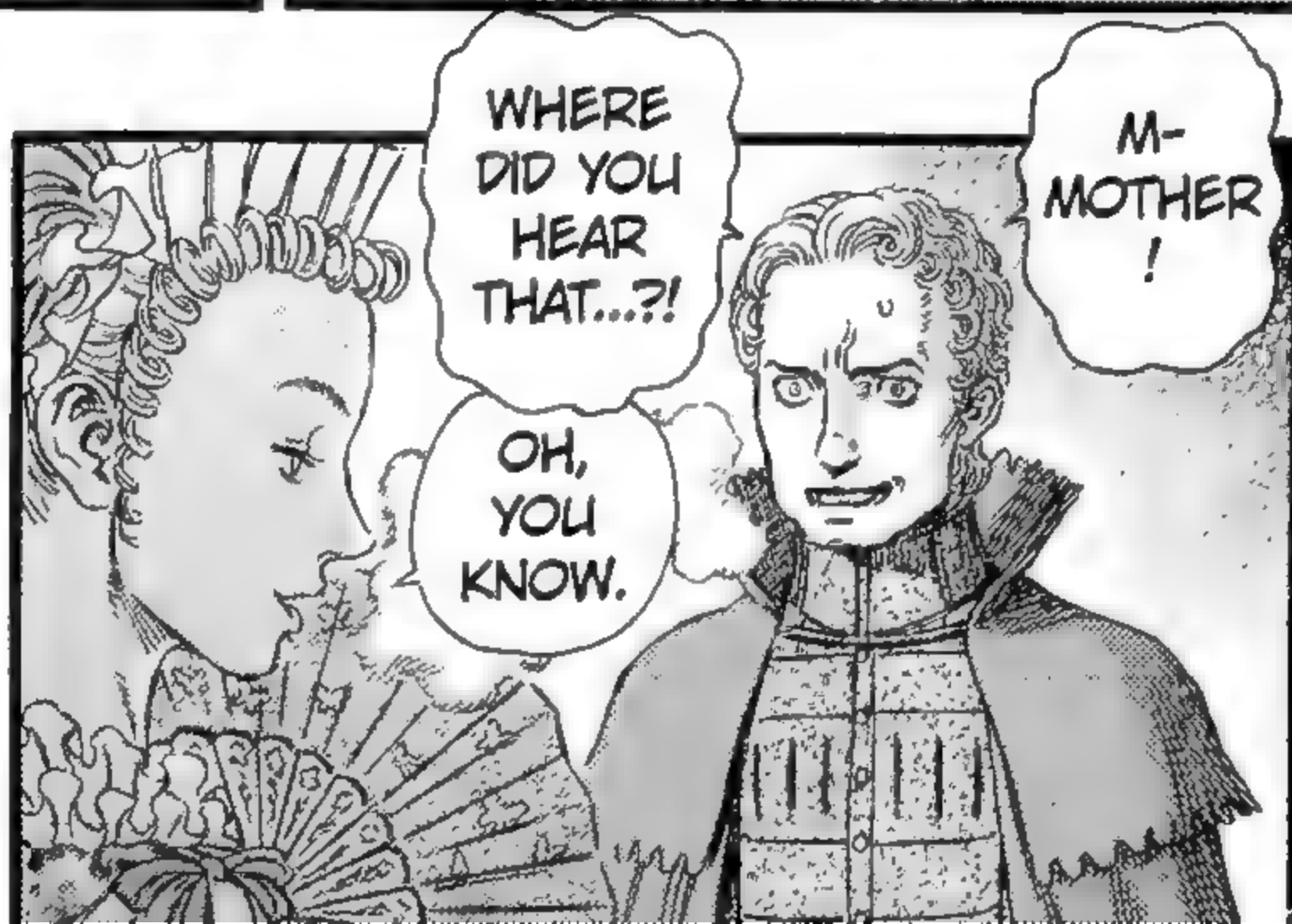
MOTHER  
...!



IS IT  
SOME-  
THING  
HE  
SHOULD  
NOT  
KNOW  
?

IT  
COULDN'T  
HAVE  
BEEN  
FROM  
FATHER  
...?

OH.

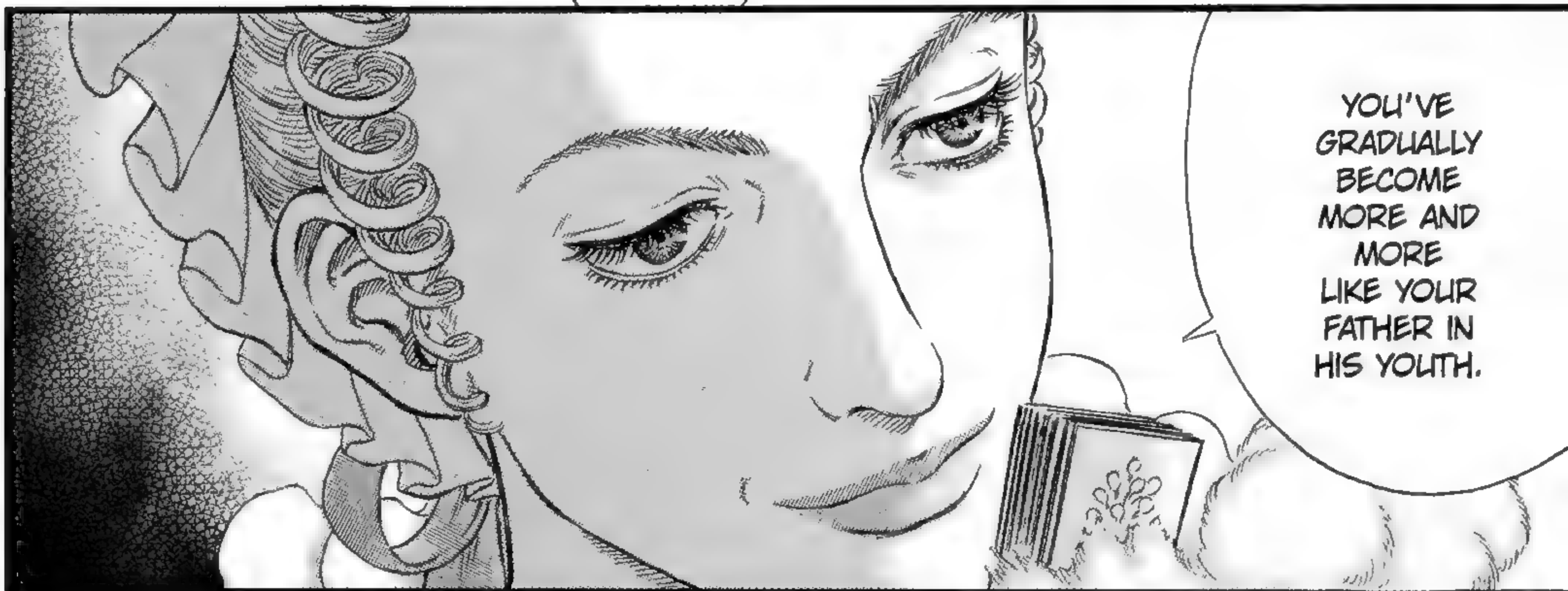
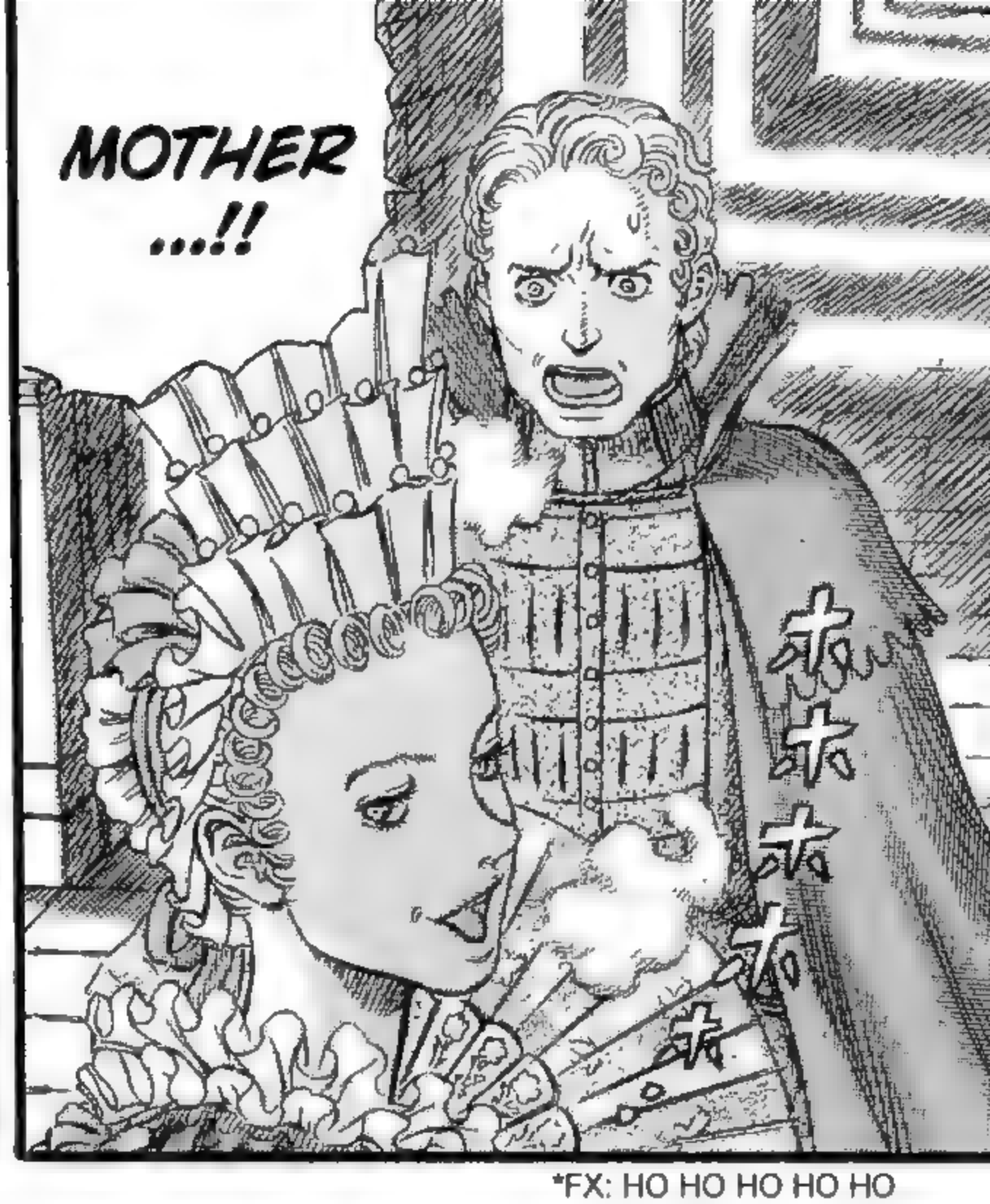


WHERE  
DID YOU  
HEAR  
THAT...?!

OH,  
YOU  
KNOW.

M-  
MOTHER  
!









...AT PEACE  
WITHIN THE  
SCHEMES  
OF MEN.

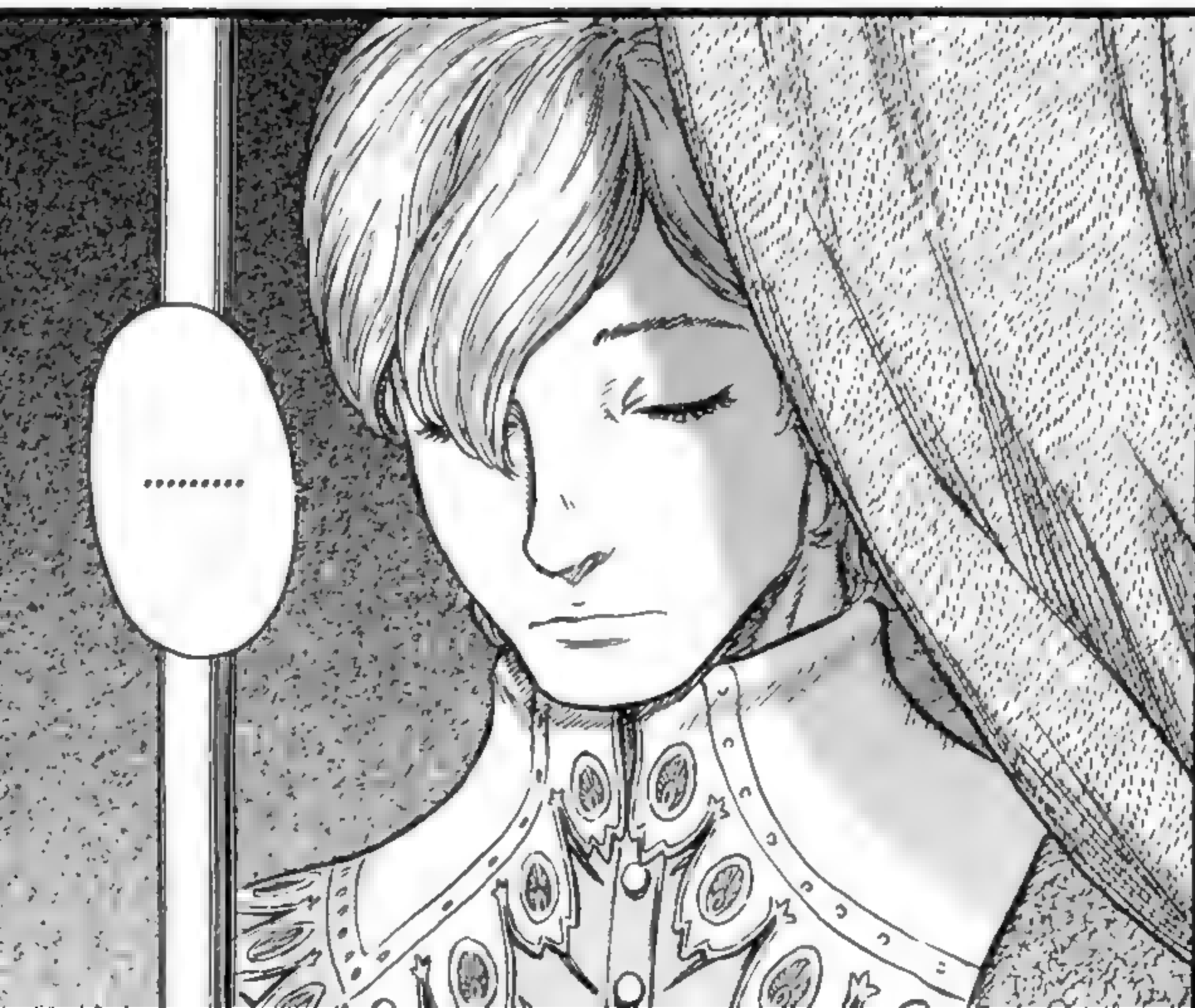
SHE'S NOT  
THE KIND  
OF WOMAN  
WHO'S...



JUST LIKE  
YOUR  
FATHER.

YOU'LL BE  
SORRY IF  
YOU DON'T  
LISTEN.

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TRYING  
TO--







YES, I REMEMBER NOW.

I AM SERPICO, MADAM.

IT'S BEEN SOME TIME SINCE YOU CAME TO THE ESTATE.



YOU'RE FAR-NESE'S SERVANT, UM...



MY LIFE WAS SAVED BY LADY FARNESE AT A YOUNG AGE. DUE TO THAT, I RECEIVED THE HONOR OF BEING BY HER SIDE.

IT HAS BEEN OVER TEN YEARS.



THEN YOU MUST BE FAIRLY **WARPED** AS WELL.



MORE THAN A DECADE ALONG-SIDE FARNESE ...

REALLY.



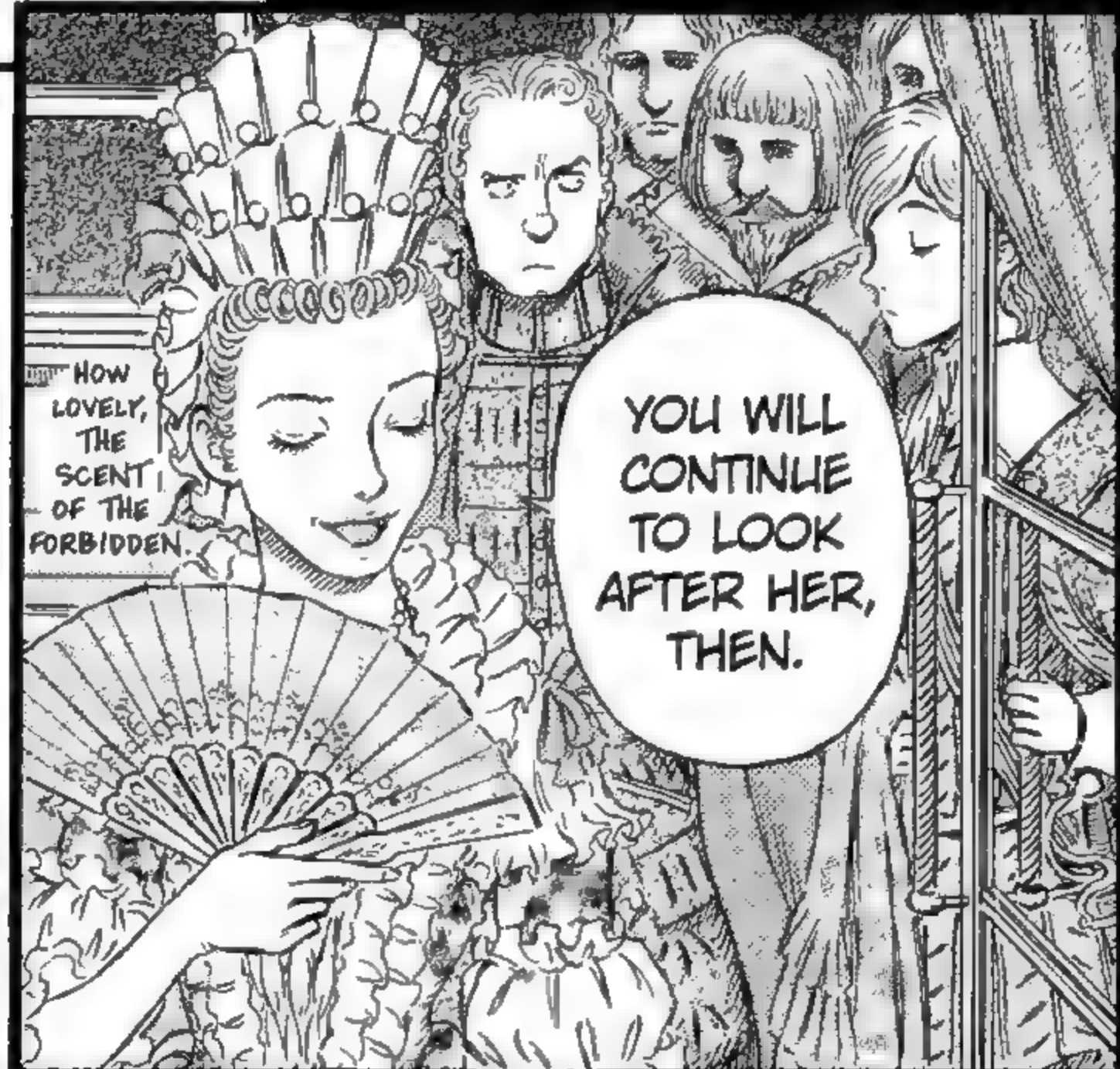


...BECAUSE  
THEY CANNOT  
STAND WITHOUT  
ENTWINING  
AGAINST EACH  
OTHER, JUST  
LIKE A PAIR  
OF TREES.

SUCH  
COMPANIONS  
CANNOT BE  
SEPARATED...



SHE IS  
QUITE  
ASTUTE.



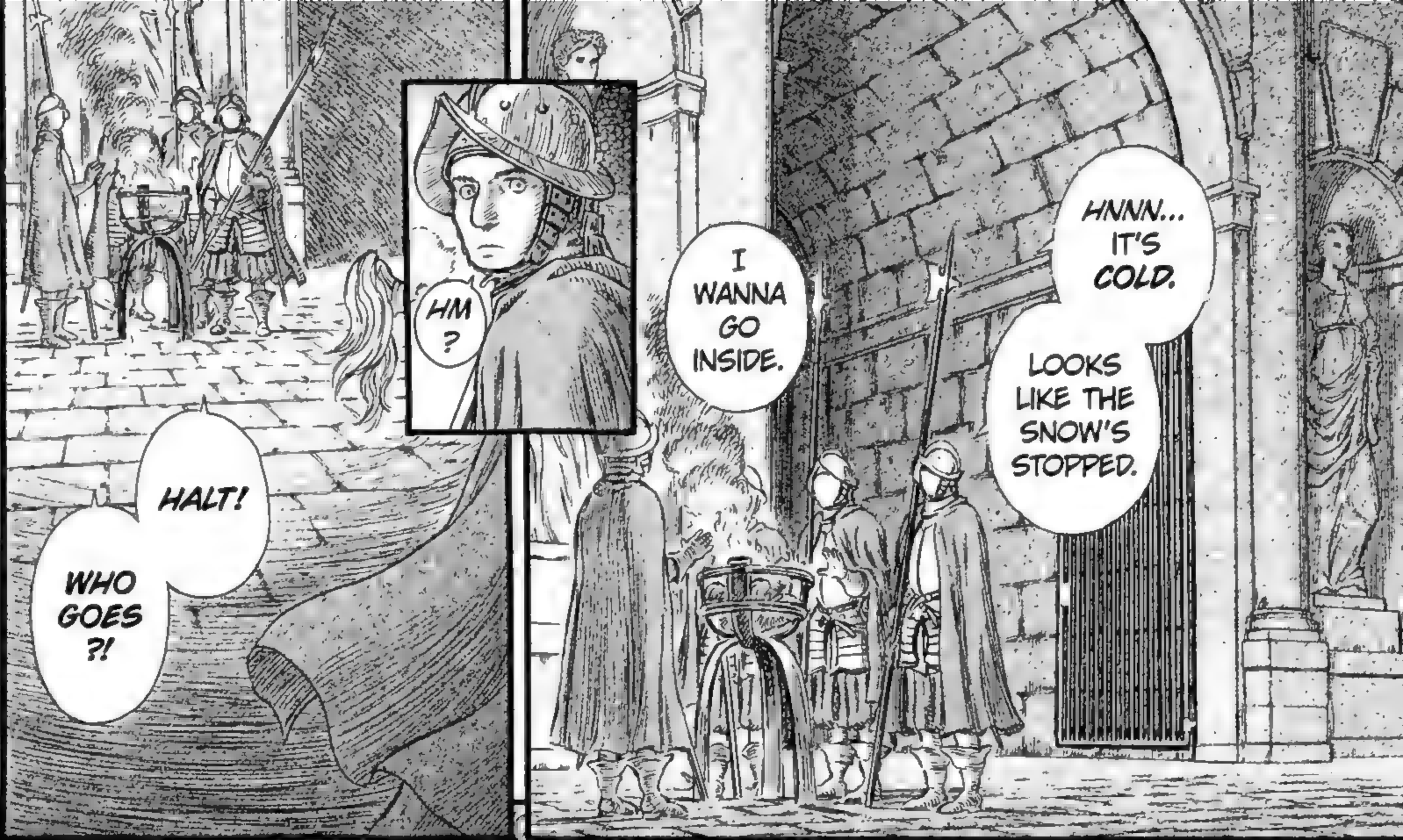
HOW  
LOVELY,  
THE  
SCENT  
OF THE  
FORBIDDEN.

YOU WILL  
CONTINUE  
TO LOOK  
AFTER HER,  
THEN.



AGAIN?





HM?

I WANNA GO INSIDE.

HNNN... IT'S COLD.

LOOKS LIKE THE SNOW'S STOPPED.

HALT!

WHO GOES?!

I BEG YOUR PARDON, BUT YOU WILL ALLOW US TO PASS.

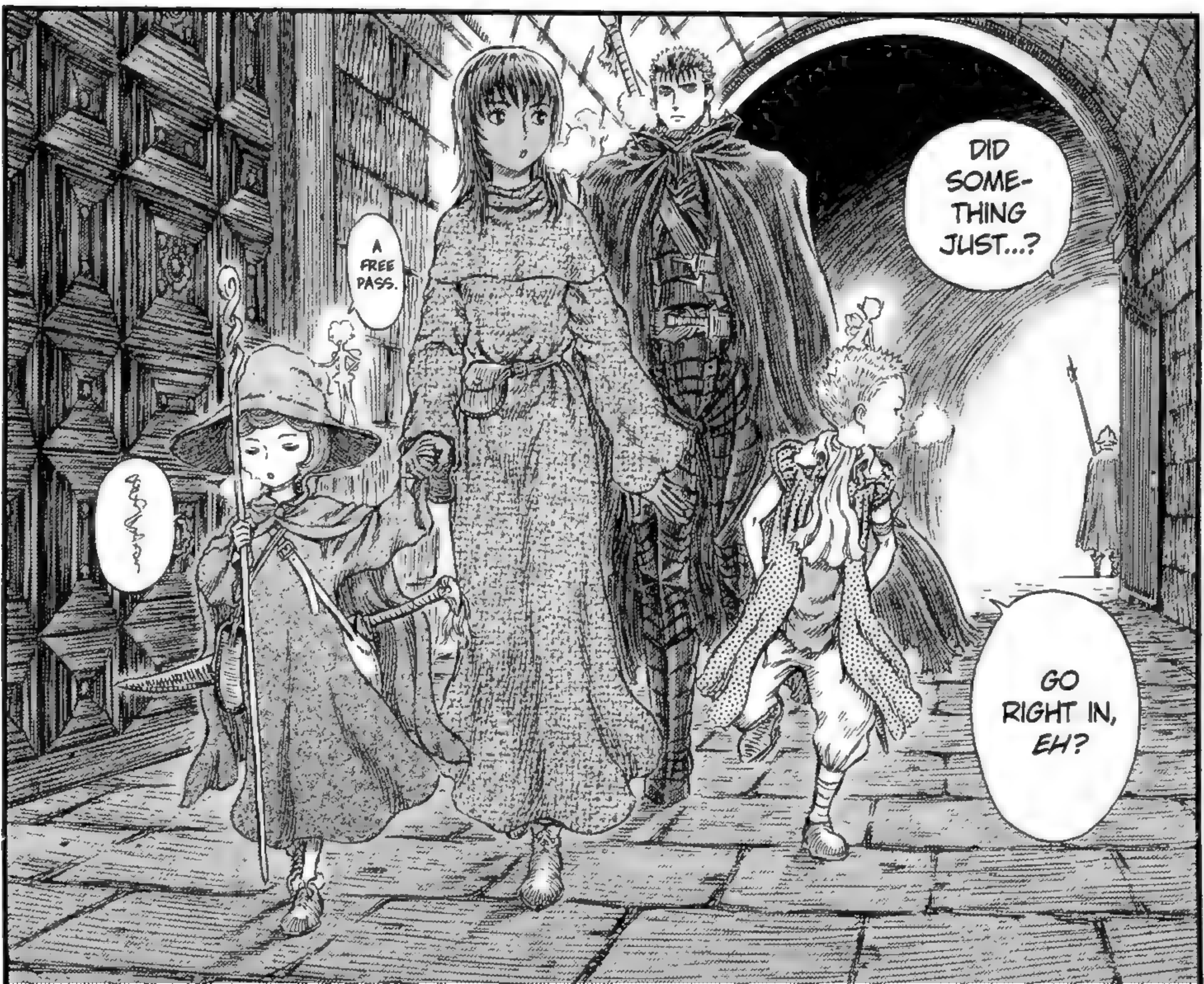
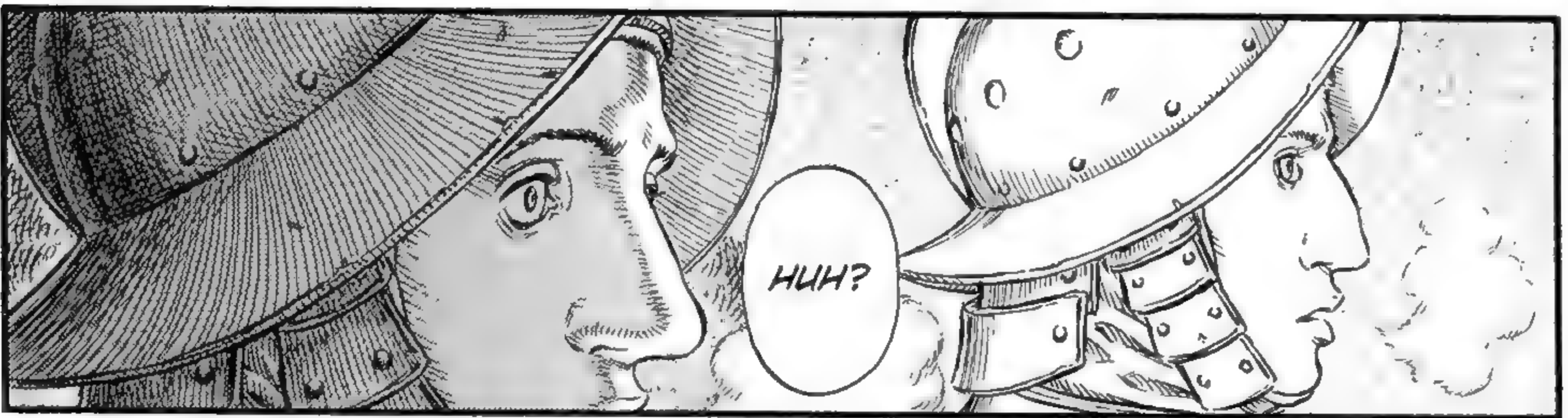
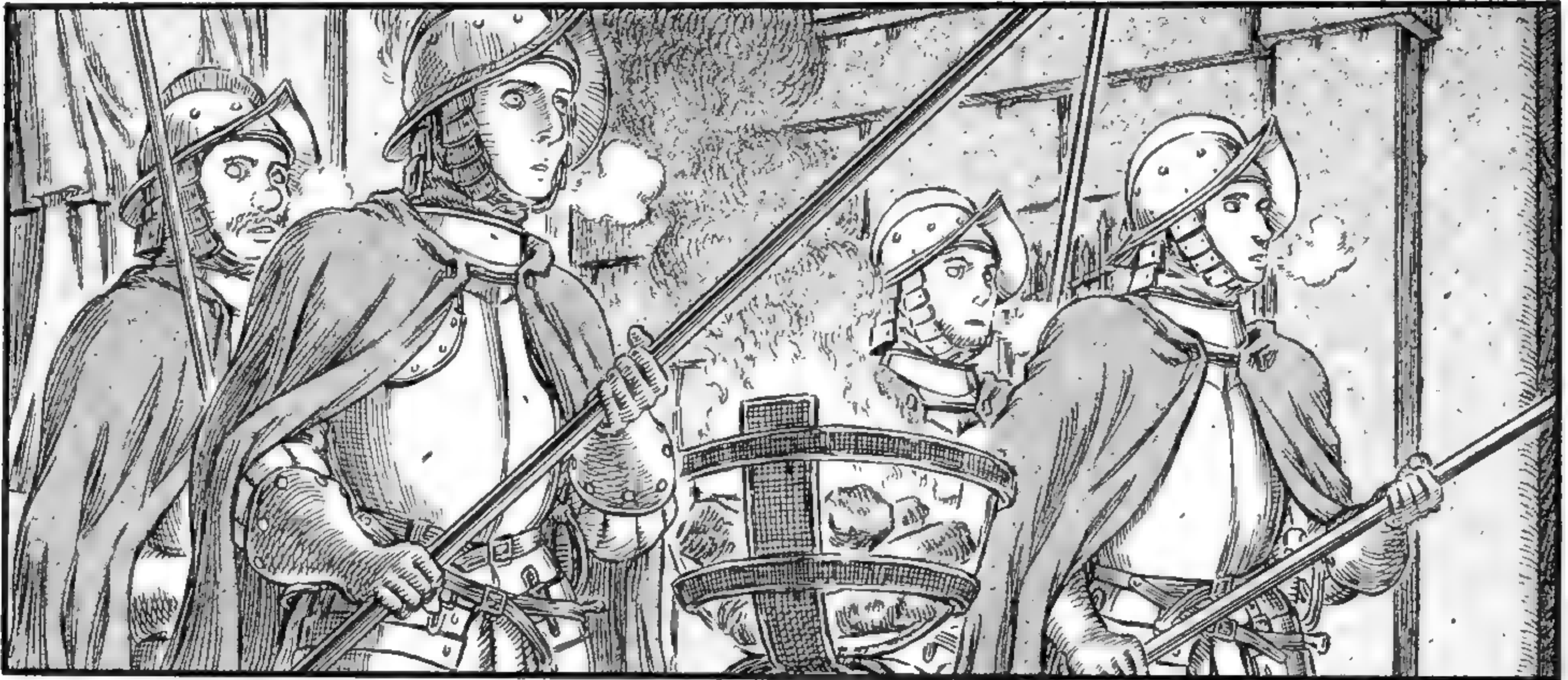
HERE IT IS!

PEOPLE WE KNOW'RE HERE! WE'VE COME FOR THE PARTY!

GOOOOD NIGHT SHIFT!



# 列柱の間 THE COLONNADE CHAMBER







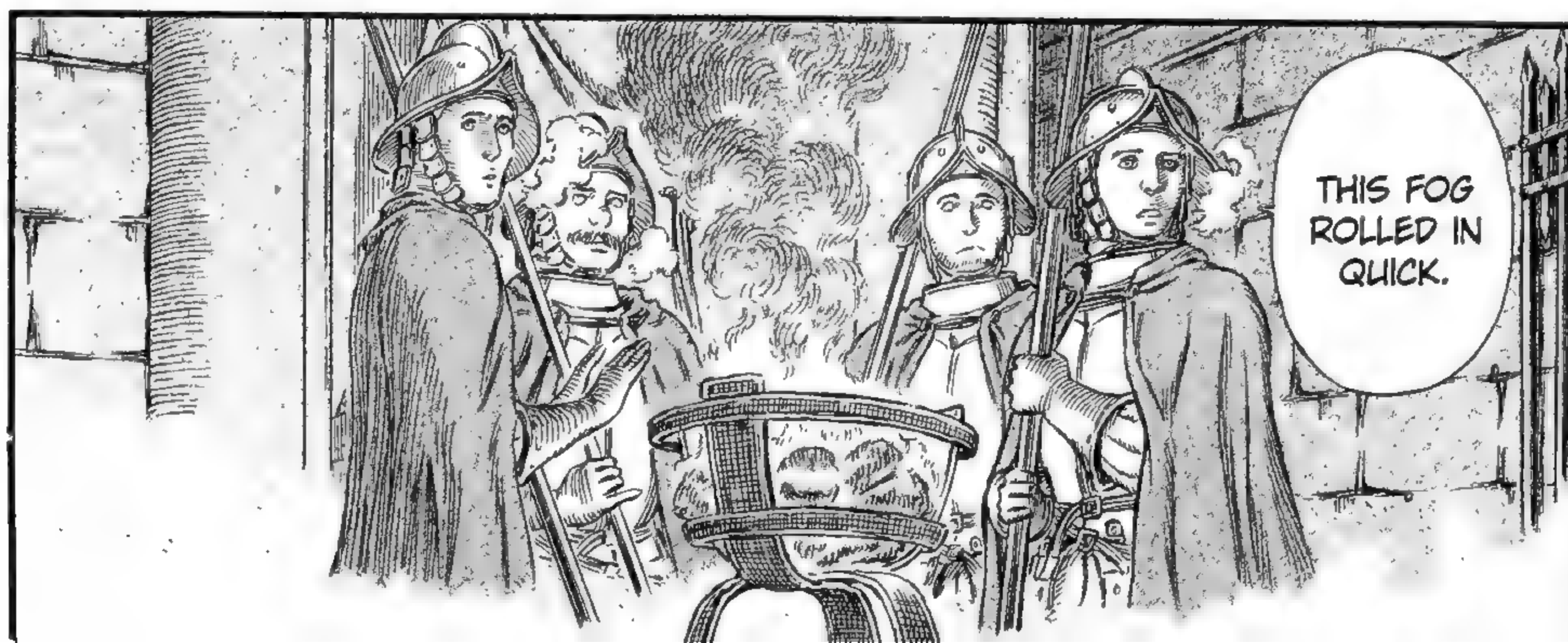
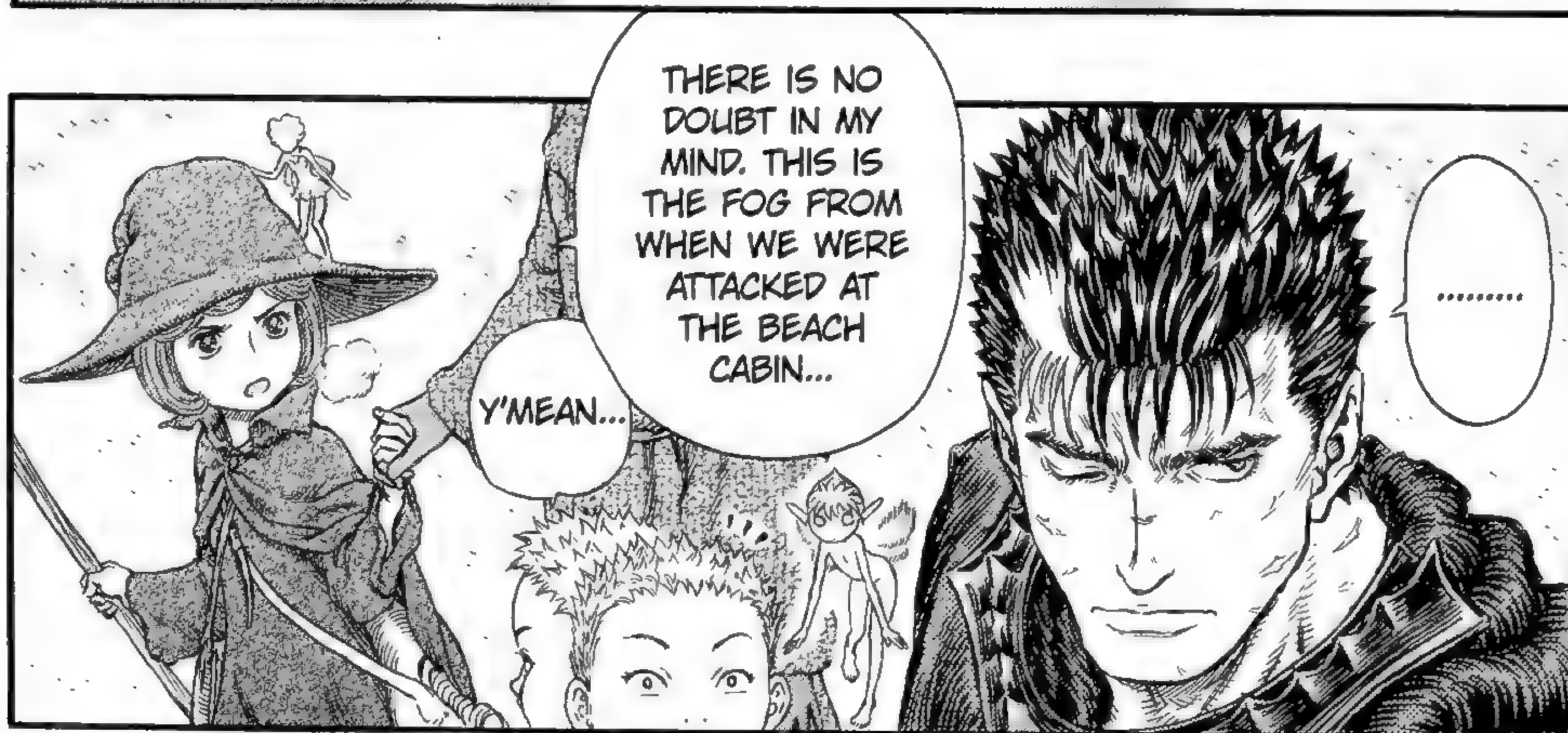
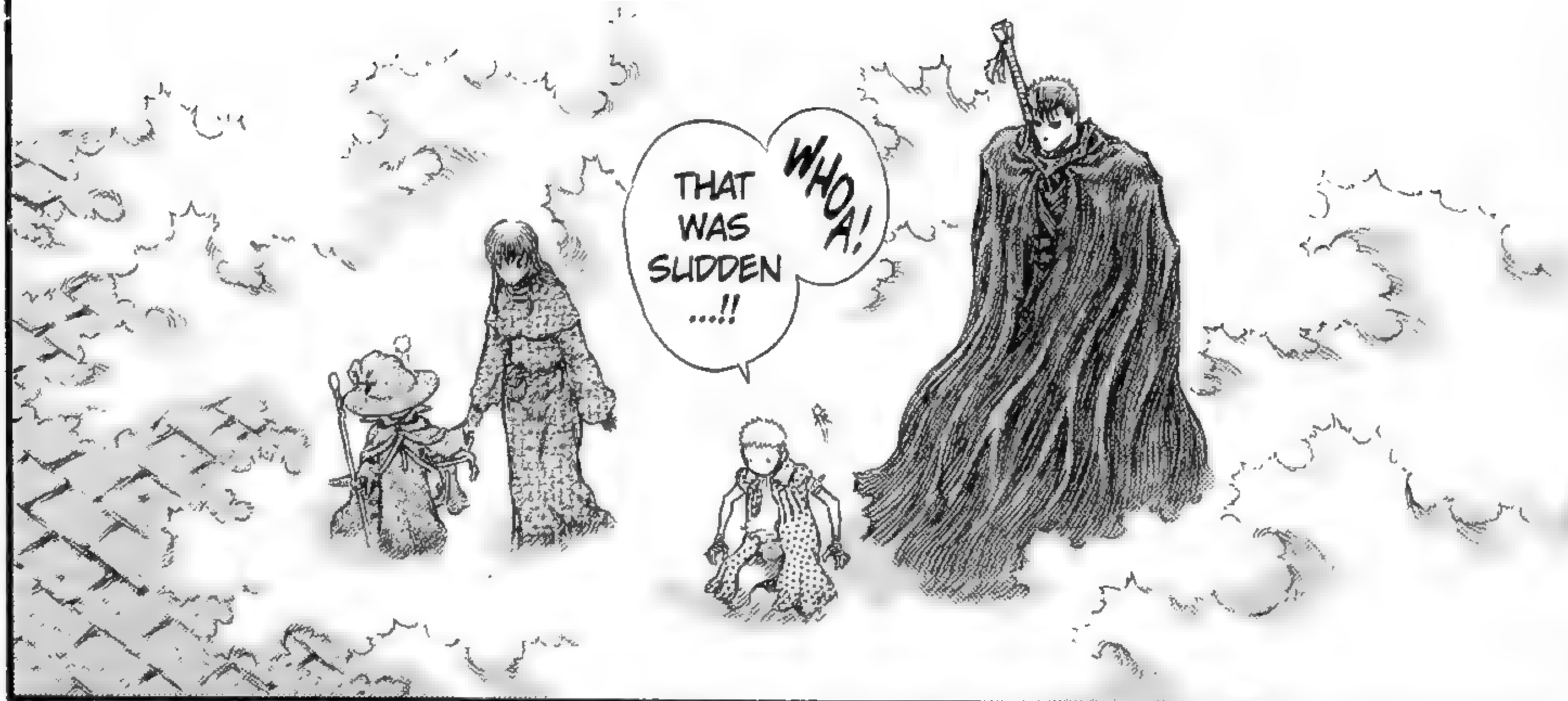
\*FX: SLRRRP



\*FX: FWOOOOS



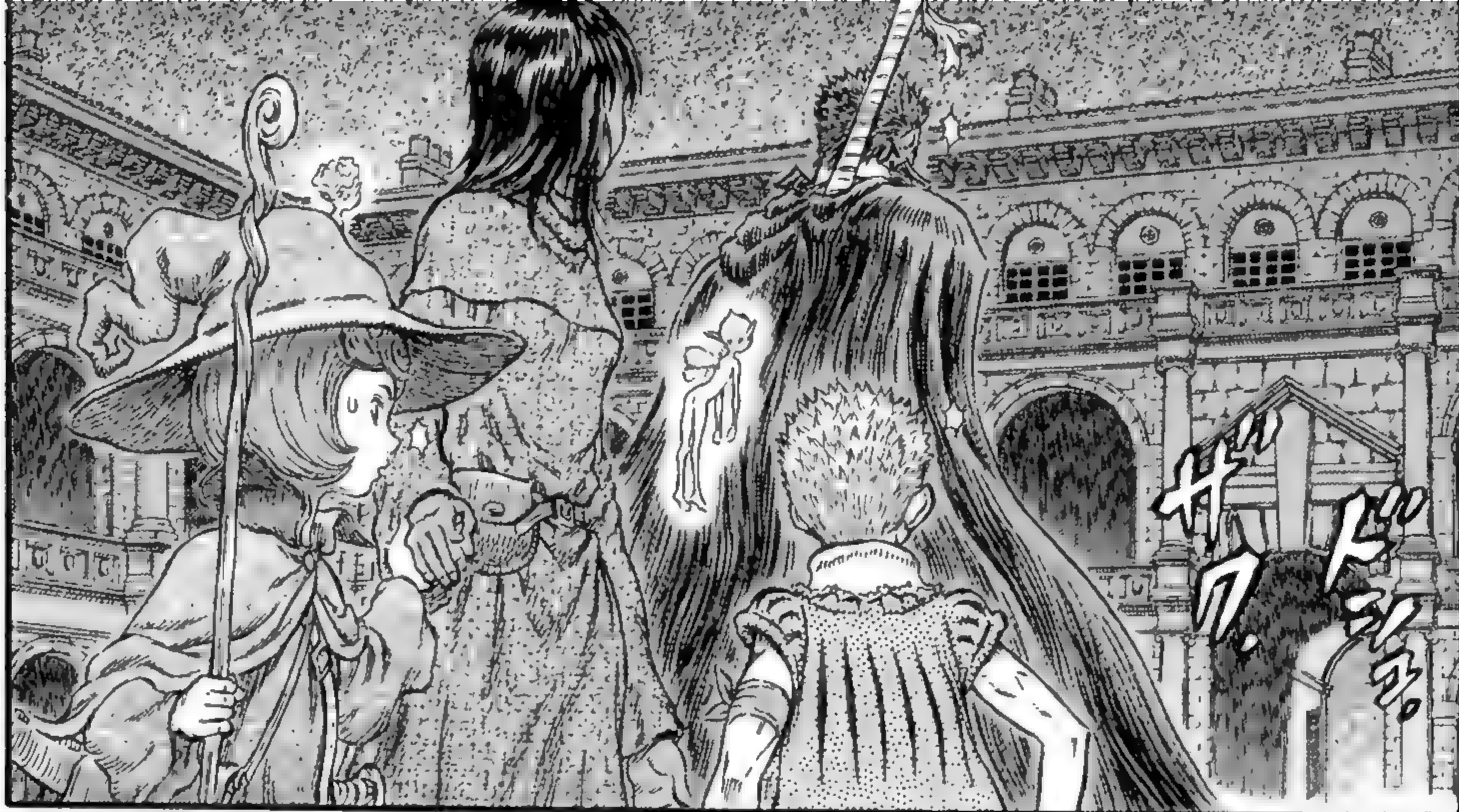












\*FX: CHRNK SHROK

\*FX: CLANNNG











...WE'D  
BETTER  
HURRY.

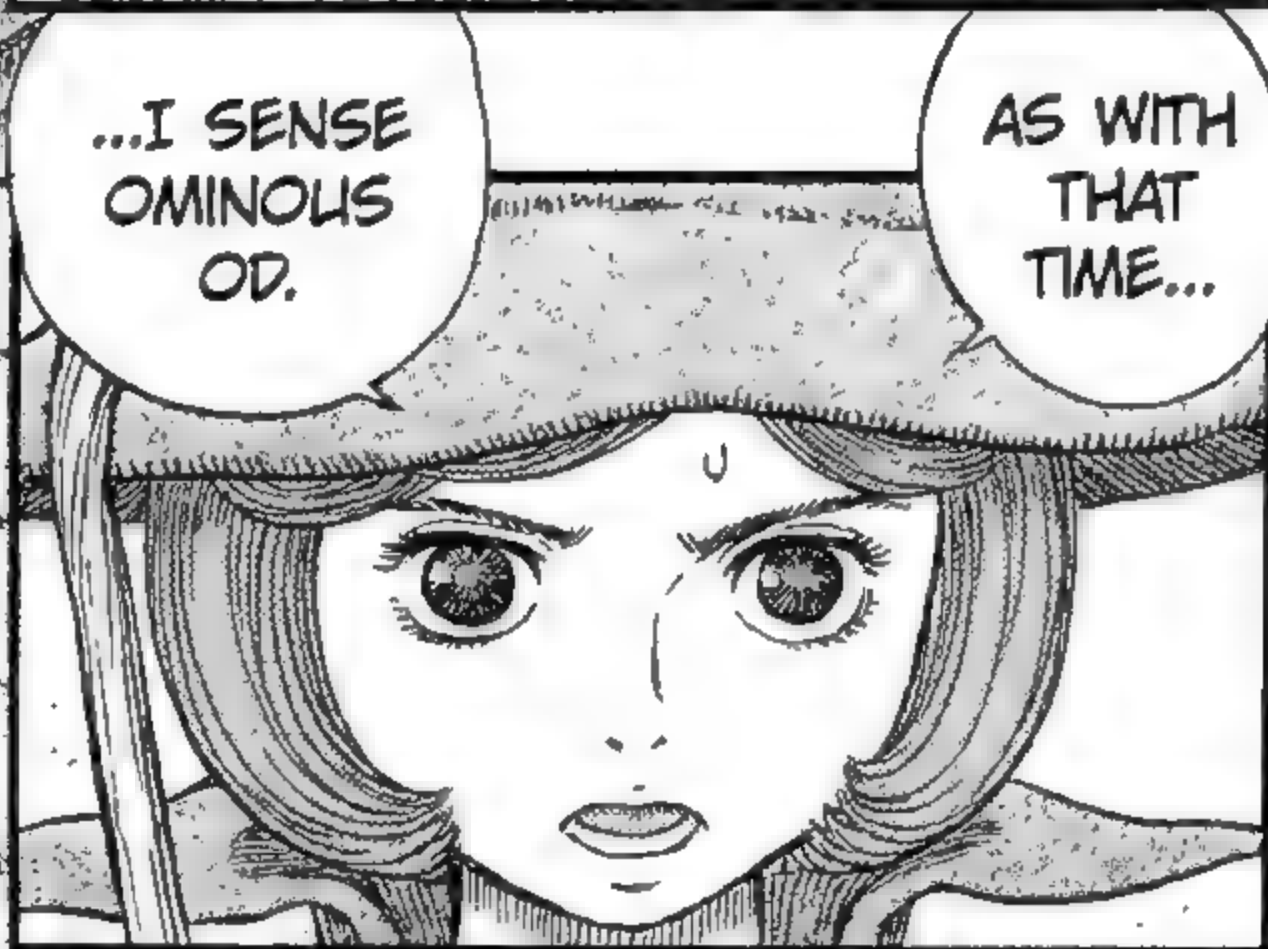
BUT IF  
SOMETHING  
LIKE *THAT'S*  
SLIPPED IN  
HERE...



ALLOY  
CAT

THAT'S...  
TOO BIG  
FOR AN  
ALLEY  
CAT.

.....



...I SENSE  
OMINOUS  
OD.

AS WITH  
THAT  
TIME...



IT'S  
STRANGE.

YEAH,  
IT JUST  
RAN  
PAST.

YOU'D  
THINK SOME-  
THING LIKE  
THAT WOULD  
COME ATTACK  
US.



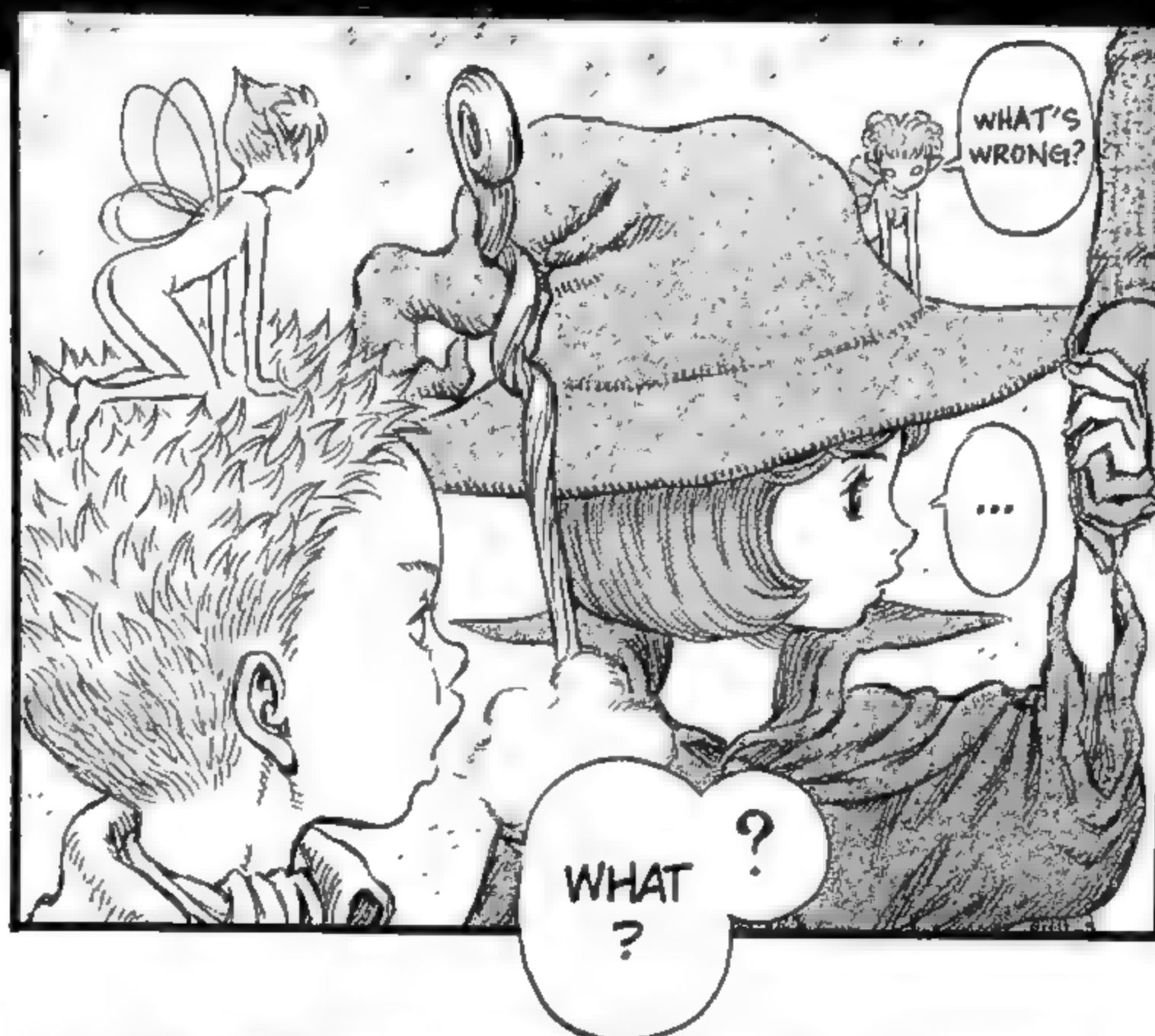
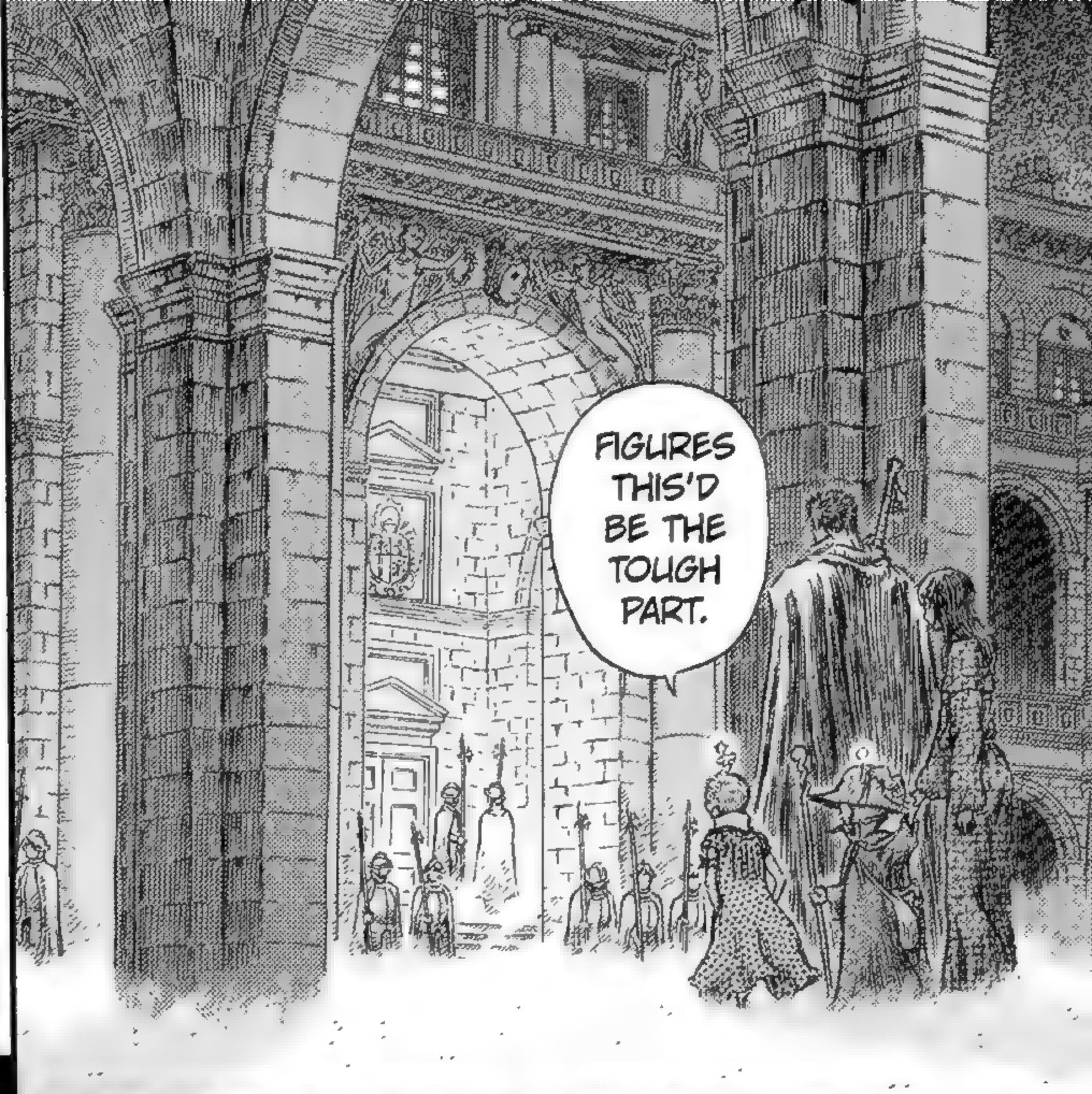
THANKS  
TO THIS FOG,  
THOUGH,  
IT'S EASIER  
FOR US TO  
SLIP IN.

HEHEH

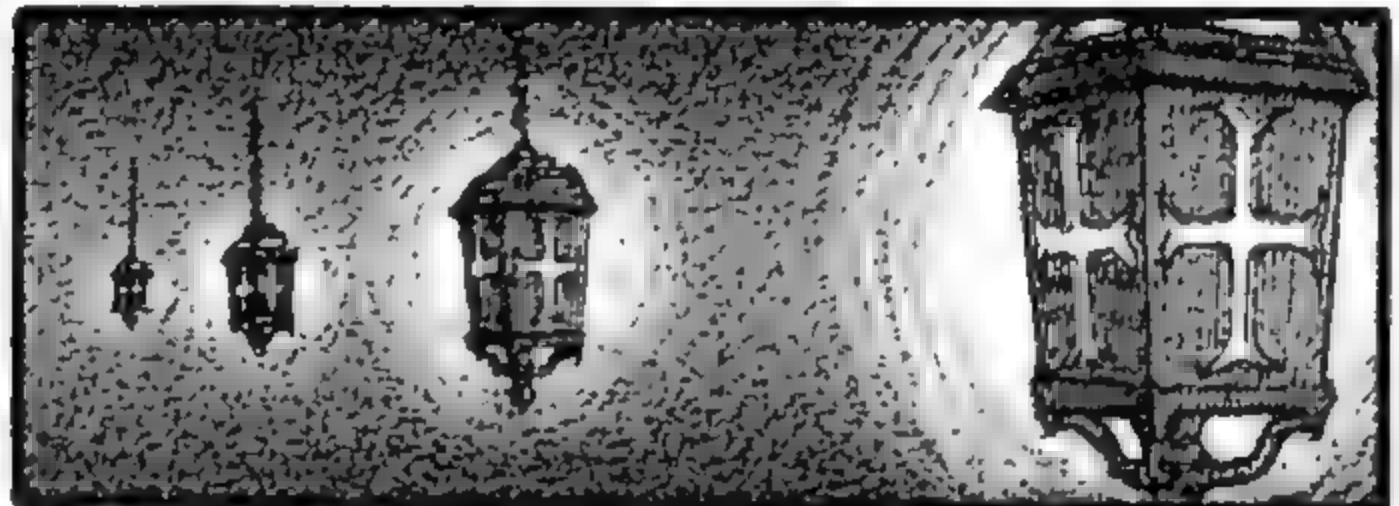
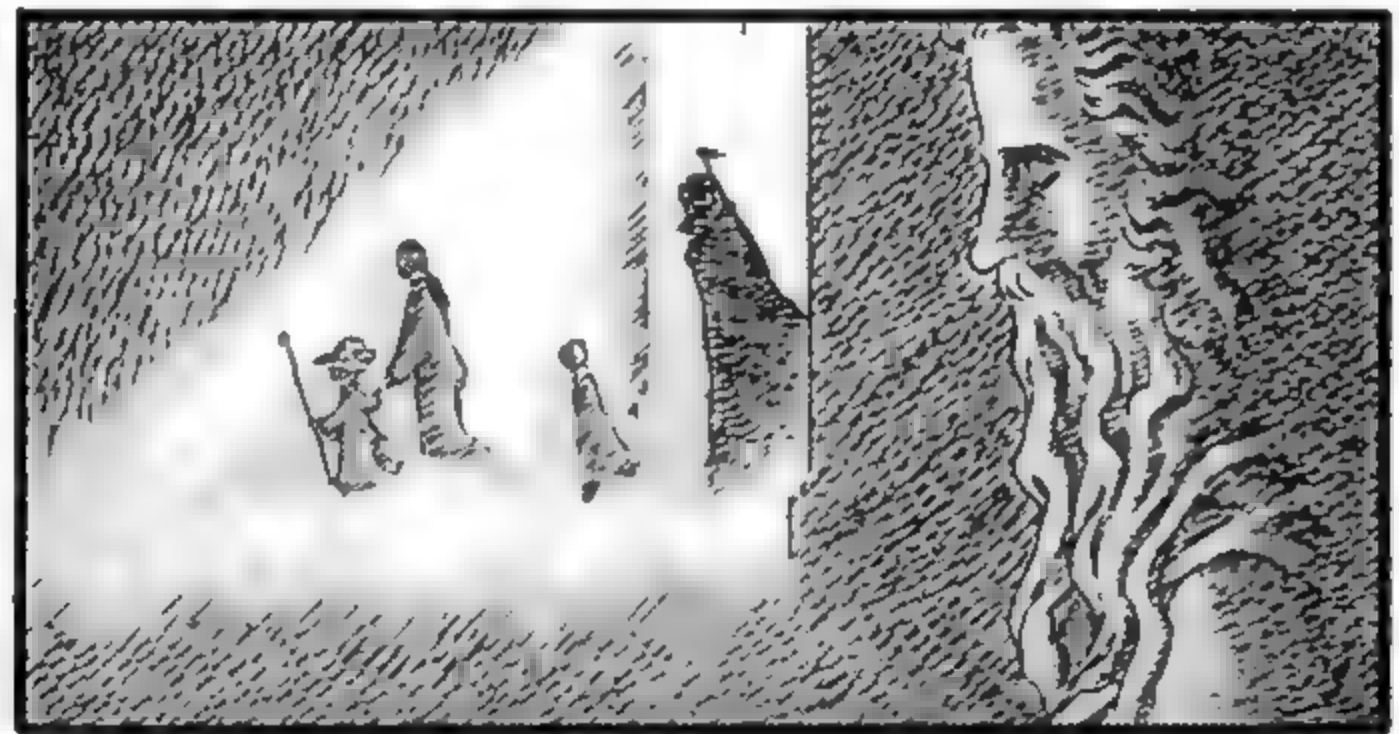
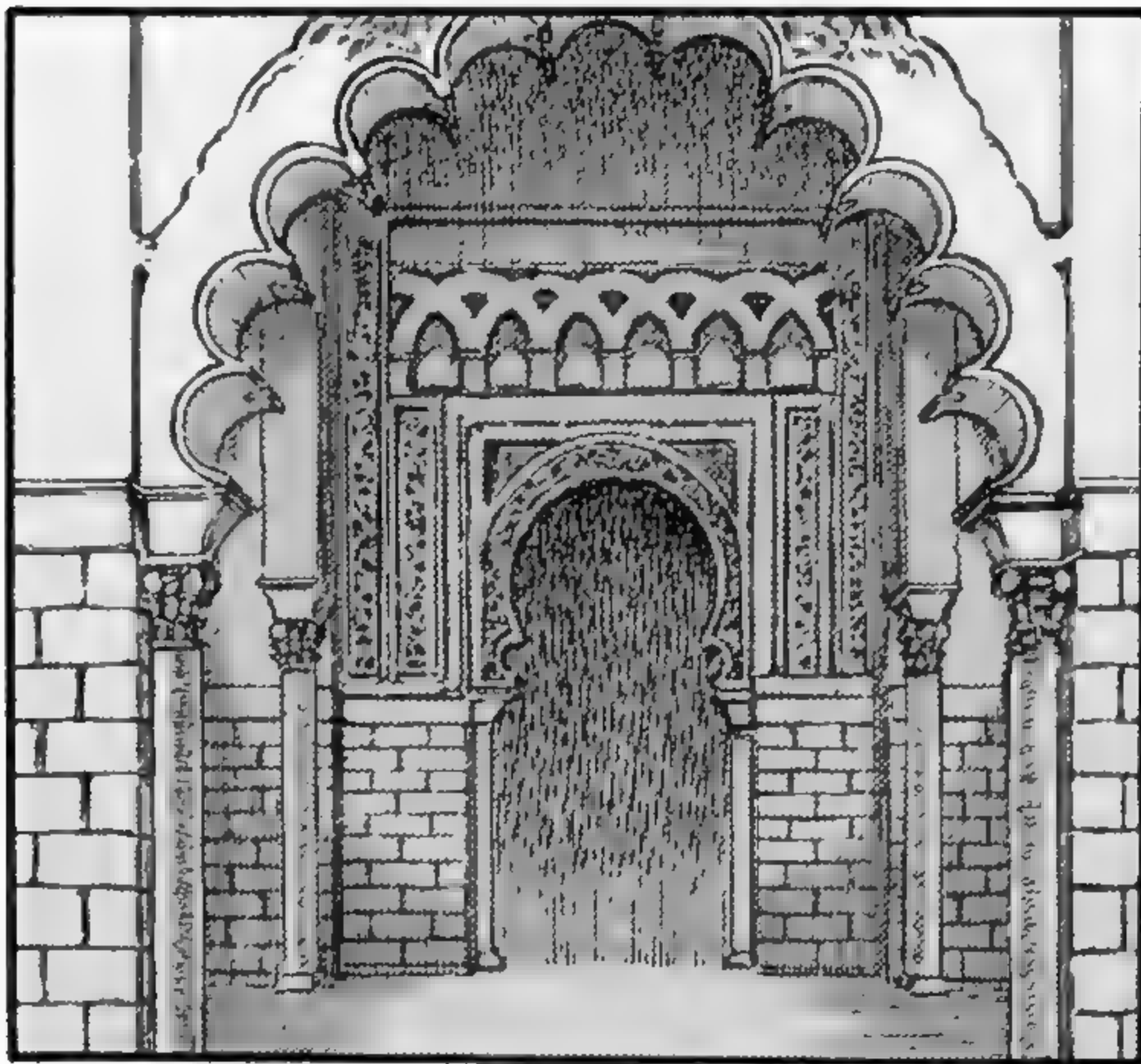
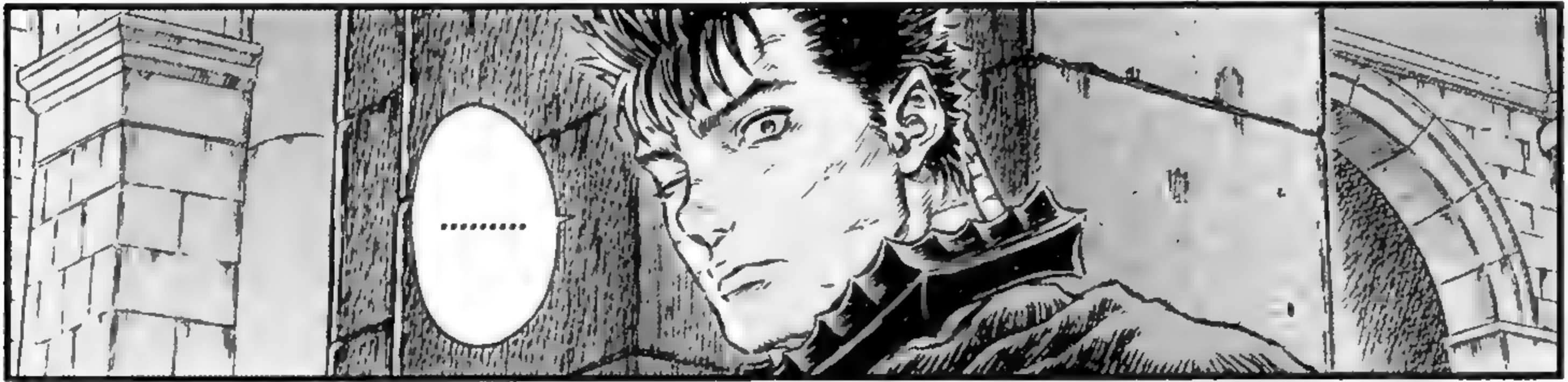
WHAT'S  
ABOUT TO  
HAPPEN  
HERE?



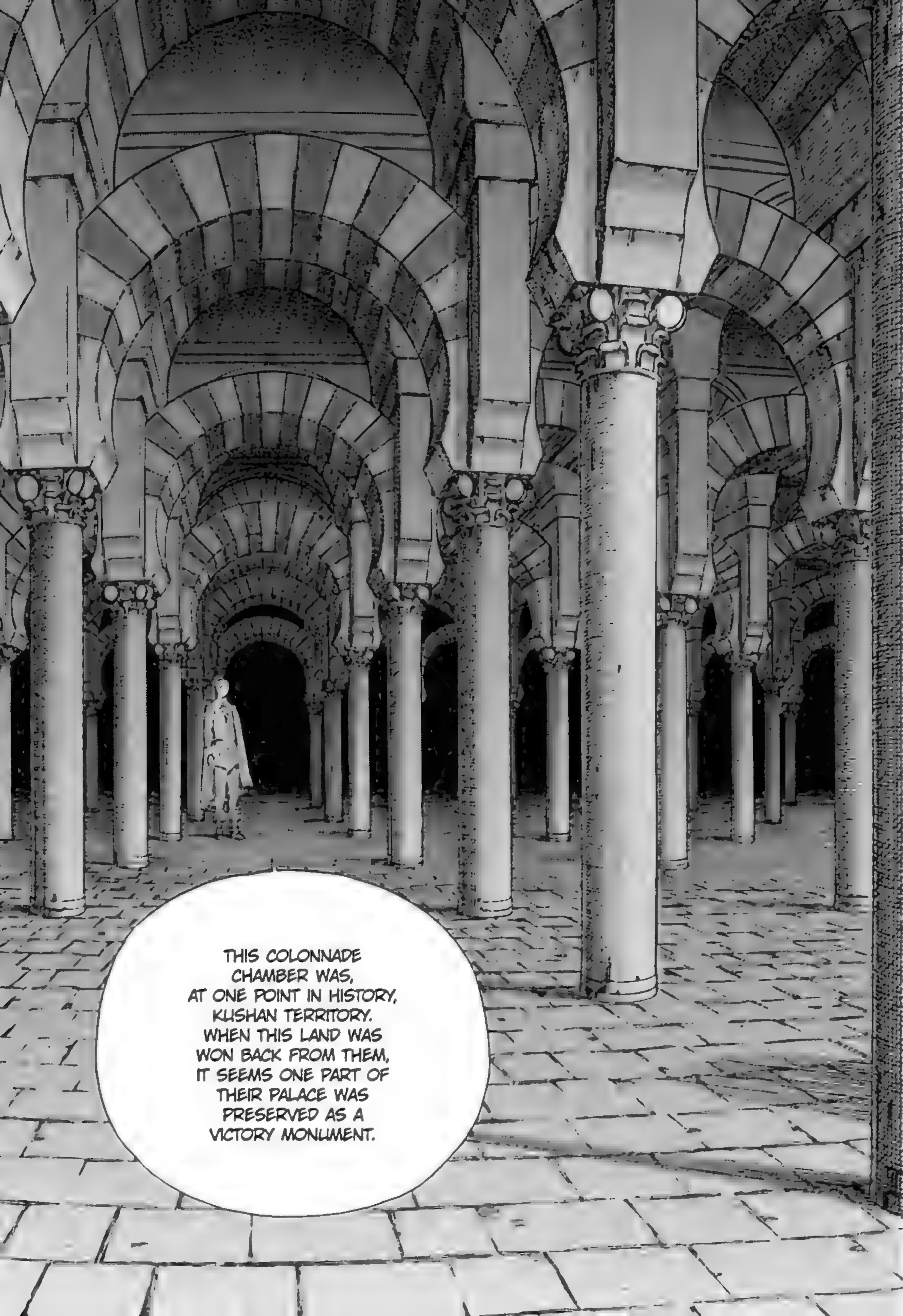












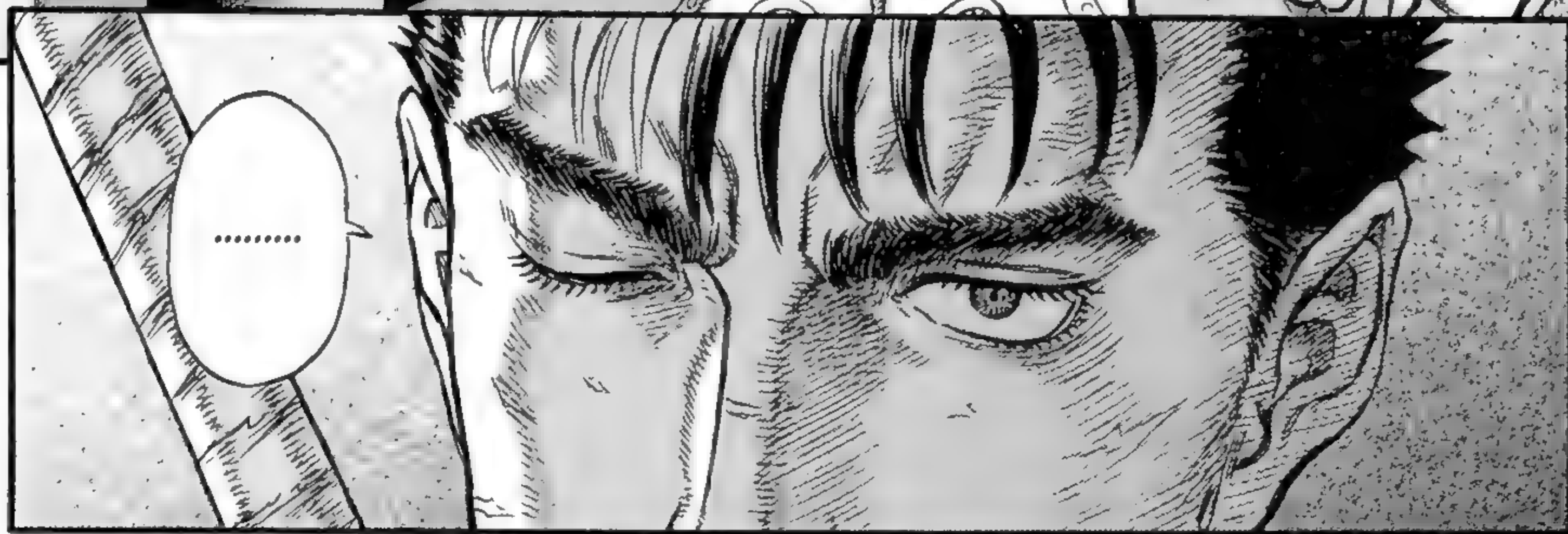
THIS COLONNADE  
CHAMBER WAS,  
AT ONE POINT IN HISTORY,  
KLUSHAN TERRITORY.  
WHEN THIS LAND WAS  
WON BACK FROM THEM,  
IT SEEMS ONE PART OF  
THEIR PALACE WAS  
PRESERVED AS A  
VICTORY MONUMENT.



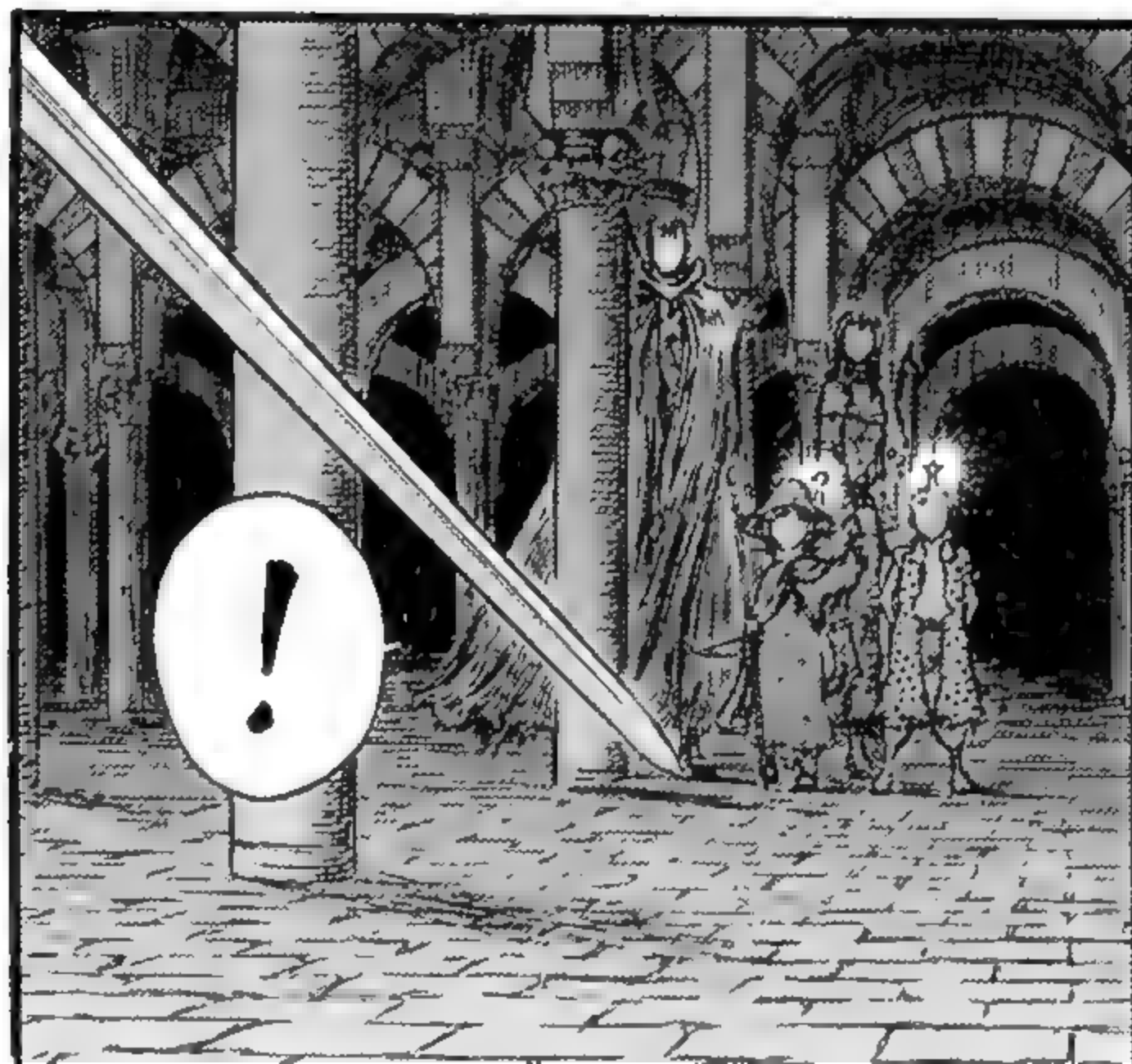




I APOLOGIZE  
FOR CALLING  
YOU OVER  
HERE.



.....



!



SERPICO.

WE HAVE  
COME  
TO SEE  
FARNE--



GUTS.

THIS IS  
PRESUMP-  
TIOUS...

...AS I  
WILL NOT  
ALLOW  
IT TO  
HAPPEN.

THAT IS  
UNFORTUNATE...

...BUT I  
WILL GRANT  
YOUR WISH  
RIGHT HERE  
AND NOW.

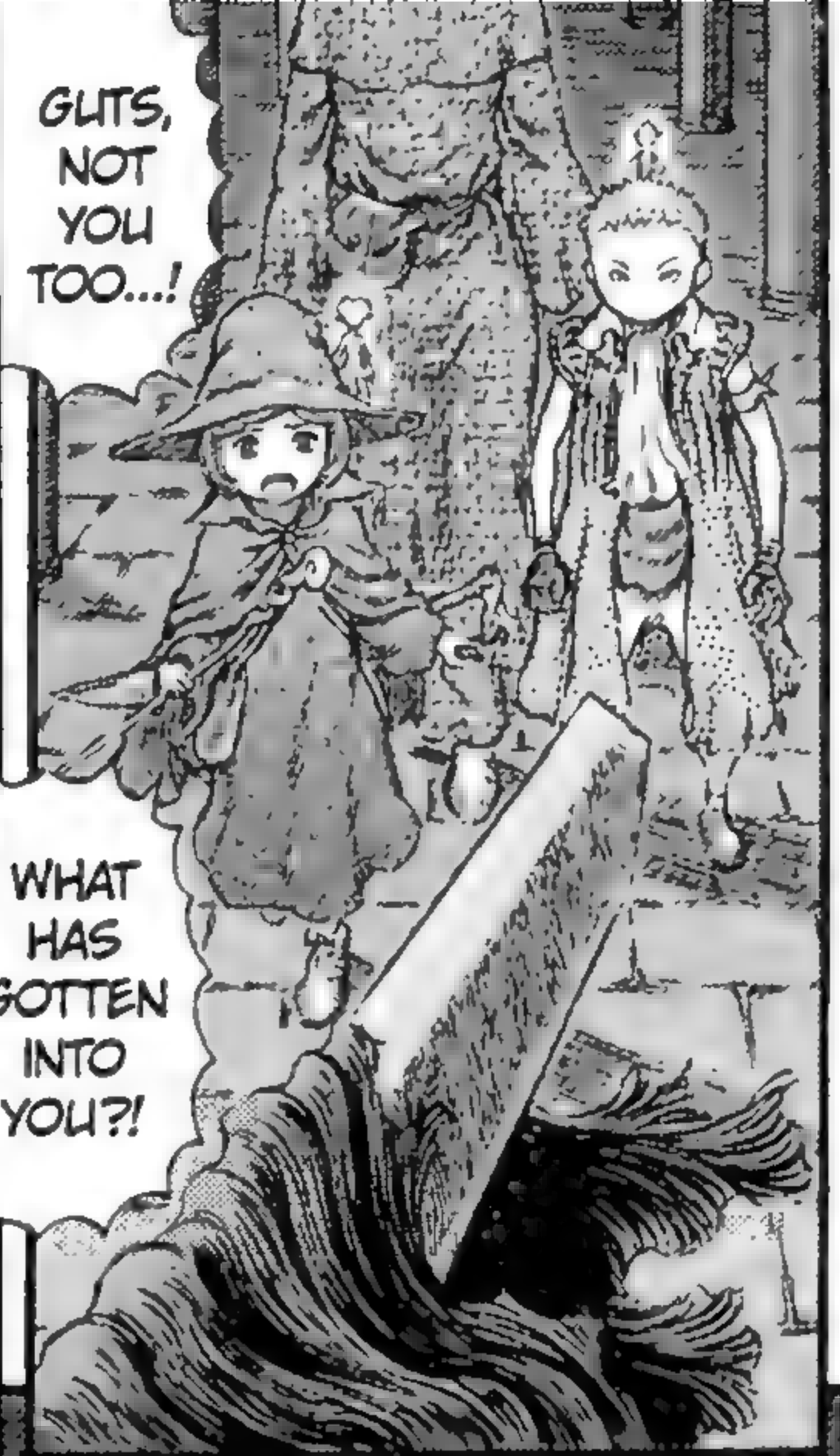






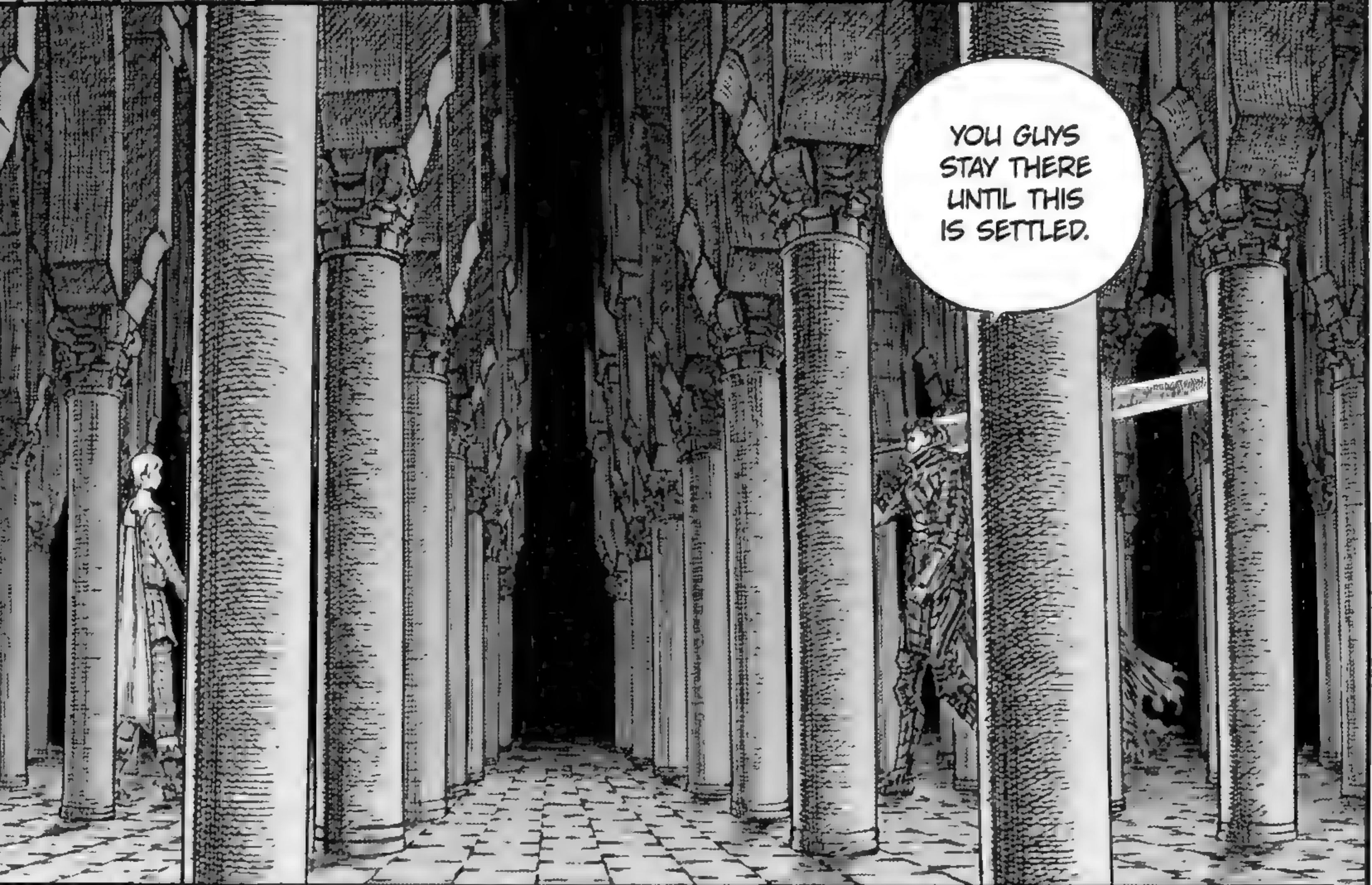


SOMETHING  
WE CAN'T  
LET GO OF,  
I GUESS.



GLYS,  
NOT  
YOU  
TOO...!

WHAT  
HAS  
GOTTEN  
INTO  
YOU?!



YOU GLYS  
STAY THERE  
UNTIL THIS  
IS SETTLED.



BUT...

SCHIERE,  
YOU'RE  
OUTTA  
THE LOOP  
HERE!

TWO MEN  
FIGHTIN'  
OVER A  
WOMAN

I  
MEAN

ONE GRAVE  
GONNA BE  
ENOUGH?

GRAVE  
DIGGER OF  
FEAR

THERE'S  
NOTHIN'  
TO  
WORRY  
ABOUT.



THEY'LL  
STOP JUST  
SHORT.

THERE'S NO  
WAY THEY'LL  
GO AT IT  
SERIOUSLY.

\*SHMM

力  
来  
\*CHOK





THAT  
HUGE  
SWORD.

IT MUST  
BE A BIT  
CLUMBER-  
SOME.



THE SPACE  
BETWEEN THEM  
IS NARROWER  
THAN NORMAL,  
AND THEIR  
NUMBER IS  
VAST.

THIS  
COLONNADE  
CHAMBER  
IS KNOWN  
AS THE  
"FOREST OF  
PILLARS."



I DO  
HOPE YOU  
UNDER-  
STAND.

SOMETHING  
TELLS ME  
I WOULD  
NOT WIN  
AGAINST  
YOU  
HEAD-ON.



YA  
SLY  
FOX!

A  
TACTI-  
CIAN,  
YES.

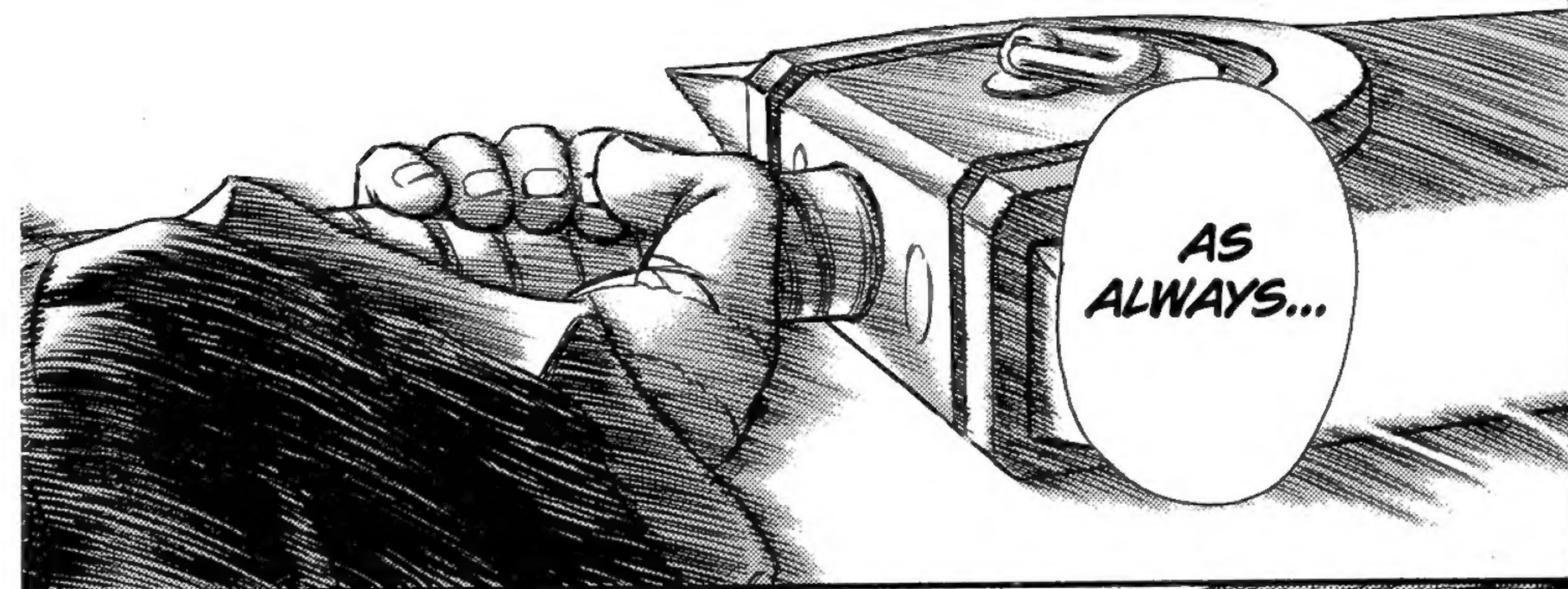
SO YOU  
LED US  
HERE...

PRETTY  
SMART.

\*SWP



...YOU'RE  
ONE  
CUNNING  
BASTARD.



AS  
ALWAYS...

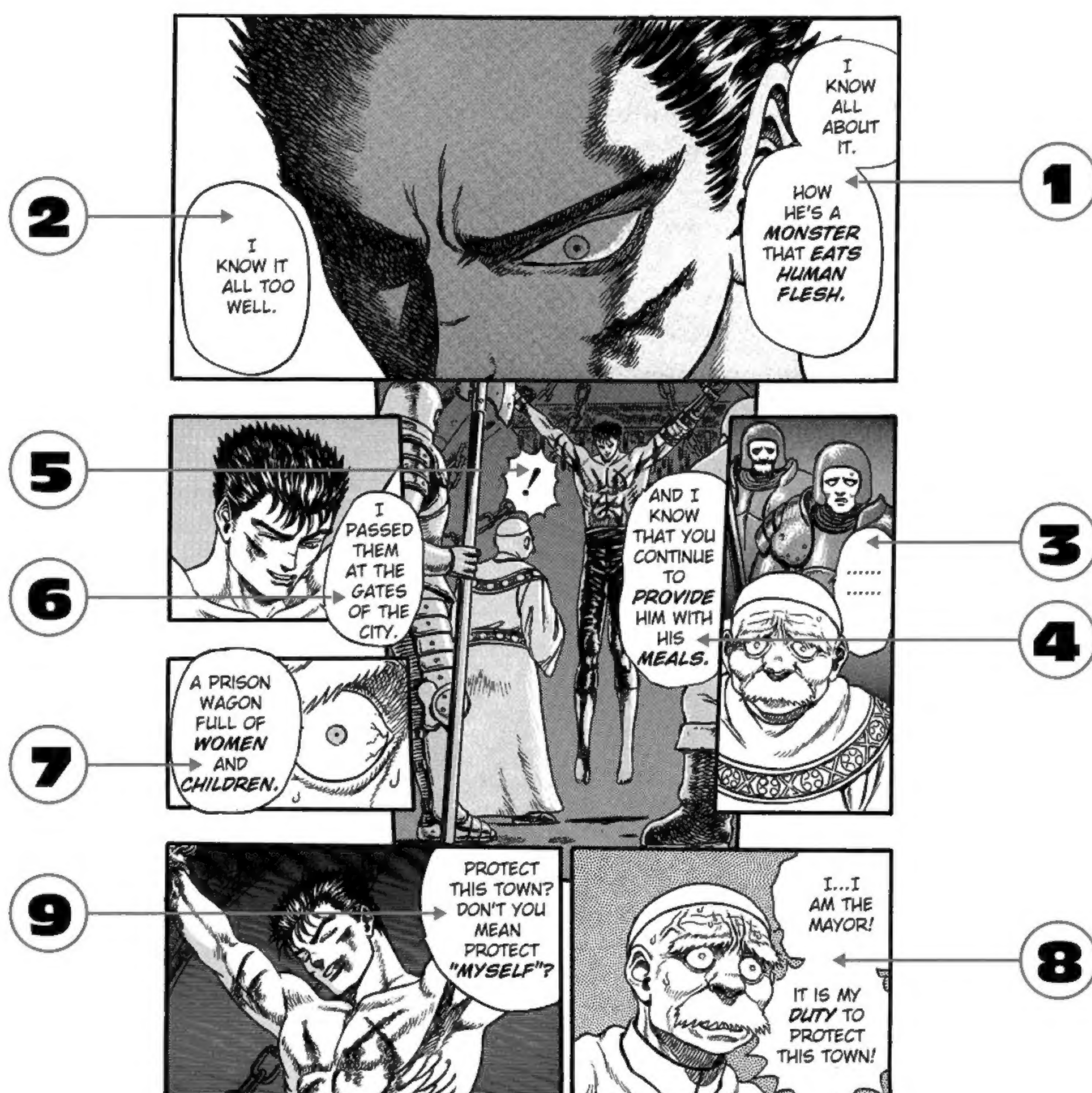




# ! STOP

## This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format at the creator's request, maintaining the artwork's visual orientation as originally published in Japan. If you've never read manga in this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right corner and will read each balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take some getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun!





COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / MANGA / HORROR

# BERSERK

**KENTARO  
MIURA**

**29**

三浦建太郎

Guts, the Black Swordsman, and his companions have finally broken free of the monster-infested wilderness and arrived at the port city of Vritannis. But the band finds out all too quickly that humans can be just as monstrous as the nightmarish creatures and apostles they battled in the forest. As Schierke and Isidro face off against pirate slavers, Farnese's power-hungry family tries to force her once again under the yoke of their political ambitions. The group's only hope is to find a ship out of the city, but even if they manage to secure a vessel, will everyone be free to leave?

Created by Kentaro Miura, *Berserk* is a howling manga tsunami, an epic graphic-fiction masterpiece that leaves no stone unturned and no blade unbloodied. A boiling blend of action, horror, and humor, *Berserk* is not for the faint of heart, the weak of knee, or the lily of liver. No Guts, no glory!

This collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format, as originally published.



**FOR READERS 18+  
FOR MATURE  
READERS**